

Memorandums of a Voyage to Van Diemens Land by Mr. P. Harrison
Commenced Feby. 1st and his arrival there Sept 8th, 1822, with such
observations as may prove useful to future Emigrants.

D^r Charles/

With my views in proceeding as a Settler to this Colony you are well acquainted, completely tired of trying various businesses, to gain a comfortable livelihood in England, and finding my means of future support daily diminishing, without a reasonable chance of meeting with any employment suited to my wishes, to recruit my finances, were my principle reasons for quitting my native land. I am now arrived at my destined spot, and previously to giving you the information you require of me, regarding the settlement and my future prospects, I will give you a short account of our voyage, which has unfortunately been a tedious one to all parties, having been more than eight months on the passage, but more particularly to the Ladies, and my friend Hooper, who had never before quitted their fire side, and knew not the troubles of the Ocean, with respect to myself who have often buffeted the hardest gales, as a midshipman in the Navy, it was to me comparatively speaking of little consequence any farther than the loss of time, and not being able to reach this place in time to prepare much land for cropping, to save the first season. You are aware of the difficulties I experienced in London, in shipping my merchandise, in not being able to get my implements of Agriculture on board the Macclesfield with me, but I am happy to say in consequence of our delays, the William Shand which you shipped them by two months after our departure, got here a month before us, and we found every thing right. When you left me in London, we immediately dropd down to Gravesend, where we remained two days, while

the Ships crew were paid their Wages in advance, and the Passengers on board were mustered by the proper Officers of the Customs, and our names registered, and the quantity of provisions ascertained to be equal to the consumption^m of the number of passengers going out, and of such quality as to give satisfaction. These are good regulations and if acted strictly up to, will at all times prevent any great deficiency^m of water and provisions being put on board, and as every ship is allowed to take but a certain number of passengers, according to her^m tonnage, it prevents the ships being so crowded as to make them liable to much sickness. Unfortunately many of our passengers did not ship themselves in London, but wishing to spin out the last day with their friends, they came on board here, you know how full the ship was crammed in the Docks, which obliged us to fill our cabins with merchandise, and to leave some for the next ship. Judge then our confusion, and the dismay of those who expected to get their goods on board here, some were left behind, and those that could be taken on board, were stowed promiscuously in the cabins, and in any vacancy that could be discovered, which so completely blocked up the passage to such things as were put on board for the accommodation of the passengers, that it was many days before even plates and dishes, knives and forks, could be got at. As I took my passage in the Storage Cabin, from motives of economy (to save my money till my arrival here, where I find the £50 saved of great value to me)/^{we}were not able to get any thing for our comfort, until they were fully provided in the cabin, and I pitied my Messmates when the beef and vegetables used to be served up in a bucket, without plates or knives and

forks to eat with. I was more fortunate, as the tin dishes and plates, and knives, forks, mug, etc., which we took in our cabins, were at this time great conveniences, and I assure you myself and those who had seen such things before, and had provided for the worst, enjoyed the joke at our companions expence, who would have had enough to do to digest the salt junk, had they been well provided. We sailed in the greatest confusion from Gravesend, and the wind blowing hard many began with the motion of the ship, to cast up their accounts, long before we arrived in the Downs, here we were detained by a foul wind a fortnight, and it blew so strong a gale nearly all the time, that we lost three anchors, and a ship that drove from her anchors, carried away our boats from the quarters and much injured our vessel, to the great dismay of the ladies, in fact I never spent a worse fortnight on the coast of England, and to those who were not used to the sea/^{it was a pretty} sample of what they might expect. My friend Hooper and some others were obliged to land, being half dead with sickness and fright. We had sixty passengers on Board, one of them was a Wool Sorter, who was going out to make the most of his Trade, but the first week completely put him out of conceit of his trip, and he would gladly have remained at Deal, had not his passage money been paid and expended for provisions. One gentleman who had a wife and family on board and a large investment of property, was taken out of the ship and sent to Dover Goal by his Creditors, whom he was endeavouring to defraud of their property. We left him behind, but his family pursued their voyage. As soon as the weather permitted we sailed for Ireland, and after 3 weeks rough passage arrived there, where we was to take on board seventy tons of hops belonging to Mr. Cooper, a large-merchant in London, but we had no sooner cast anchor

in the Cove of Cork, than Lavendar and other officers from Bowstreet came on board, to search for Cooper, who it appeared had sent the Hops from London, where he had purchased them on Credit, for the Irish Market, but it being suspected that he intended shipping them, and quitting the country with them, the Officers came to seize him, as well as the Hops, thus we lost another passenger. They likewise seized a large quantity of merchandise that was shipd in London, and insisted upon unloading the ship to get at it, which they effected, and the goods were landed and supposed to be worth near ten thousand pounds, the circumstances were as follows, this property was purchased, shipd and paid for, by a gentleman who had his family on board, and a large establishment of servants etc. He was Clerk to a Merchant who 12 months since went to New Holland, and did not settle with any of his Creditors, whom he meant to swindle out of their property, to do which he left his Clerk with power to collect all his Book Debts, and to lay out the money in merchandise, but to pay for it and ship it in his own name and on his own Acct. This he did and unfortunately put the property on board the Macclesfield, it was landed and the Creditors did all in their power to prevent its being taken out of the Country, but as every thing was bought in this person's name, paid for, shipd and consigned to himself, they could not detain it, and it was put on board again, as the person who ship'd it owed them nothing and they had no proof that it was paid for with their money, but they will no doubt get an order from the Chancellom to send out and arrest and send home the principle, to account for the property to his Creditors, but his plan being so well laid, he will in all probability sell the goods immediately on their arrival, and ship himself with the property for Spanish America, or some place not under the British authority. Thus

you will see how much difficulty and delay these rogues have occasioned us, and this will convince you that many who go to our settlements are not ~~more~~ honest, than those who are found out in their iniquity, and transported. Our Companion the Wool Sorter could not proceed farther than Cork, he was so completely sea sick, and sick of the sea, that he was heartily glad to set foot on shore again, set off for London without his passage money. I have no doubt with many a good resolution to stick to his board for the future, and let those go to Van Diemens who like the sea better than himself, thus you will allow there are some white feathers in your Trade as well as others. The delay occasioned to the ship by such unpleasant circumstances, made all parties much complain, and I have some reason for it. In consequence of not having room in my Cabin to stow away the Hamper of Wine, you and my good friend Mr Coleman was kind enough to furnish me with , I was obliged to make it fast under our Mess Table, where it was secure while I was on board. But meeting with two old friends who are merchants here, and whose hospitality often induced me to go on shore, in my absence the sailors and I suspect some of my messmates opened the Hamper, and I suppose frequently regaled themselves with a bottle at my expense, as I found the wine reduced to the last tier, and the comfort of my bottle on the passage which I had anticipated , was reduced to a shadow, this I should not have much regretted, had it not been a present from my friends, whose health would often been toasted with much pleasure, as every days progress on the voyage, separated us farther from those whom we so much esteem. We continued at Cork six weeks before we could get the things on board again, and get ready for sea, and it gave us all pleasure once more to see the signal made for sailing. We weighed anchors and soon lost sight of old Ireland,

the land of Whisky, and liberal Hospitality, I will not attempt a description of this Island, as it would be to repeat what many have described so fully, that I can add nothing new to its peculiarities, suffice to say, the Inhabitants much pleased me, liberal to strangers without ostentation, they appear to emulate each other, in trying which shall treat with the greatest Hospitality, those whom chance, or letters of their friends, may introduce to their Houses. The only purchase I made in Ireland was some Glass, I found this article so cheap, it induced me to lay out some money on speculation, and I find since my arrival it will pay me 150 per cent profit. We proceeded for some weeks with pretty fair weather, until we had passed Madeira, when we encountered some gales of wind that made the old ship feel it very much, long before we reached Ireland, the ladies in the cabin who had left their husbands behind, and a Mrs Dessaily who was going out to join her husband, a doctor at Hobart Town, found the convenience of having on board an old sailor, who was always well at the time they were most unwell with the motion of the ship, and most alarmed, and they looked for my opinion concerning the dangers of the moment with some confidence, and can assure you I became a great favourite with all parties, so that I expended more time in the cabin than in the steerage, and freely partook of such good things as the Ladies always provided for a voyage, as they are generally good caterers when left to themselves. We spent our time in reading, writing, cards, chess, etc., and by the assistance of good company we now enjoyed a little relief from our first difficulties. One of the ladies, Mrs Beat, whose husband was left at Dover, was safely confined of a fine girl, and both got on and have done uncommonly well, we shall remember this child as the young Macclesfield for a long while, and it will puzzle her to

tell what parish she was born in. I am sorry to say our Captain has long proved himself a great Drunkard, which added not a little to the fears of the passengers, and I can assure you I was not without my fears for our ultimate safety, when I saw him affected with liquor when it blew a heavy gale, and as obstinate as a mule, but my fears I kept to myself, as I had enough to do to quiet the apprehensions of others, but it obliged me to be upon the alert, and to keep regular watch with the mate, who was the only good sailor on board, such was the irritable temper of the Cap^{tn}, that I was the only passenger who could keep upon fair terms with him, as his great pleasure arose from the grog bottle, he was too anxious that I should share his glass, but being on my guard I could not encourage him in excess, but did my utmost to persuade him against it. In a gale off the Cape de Verd Islands, we unfortunately sprung our Bowsprit, and Fore topmast, and upon them being examined, the Carpenters declared they were not sea worthy, and they gave way in consequence of the rigging being so decayed as not to be a proper support to them. We could not set up fresh rigging and spars at sea, therefore was obliged to strengthen them as well as we could to make them last until we could reach Rio Janeiro, which with great difficulty we managed, but it is a great shame to send a ship so badly prepared for so long a voyage. Nothing particular occurred from this time until we arrived at the Brazils, where we anchored at the end of May. We were all much gratified with the scenery of the Harbour of Rio, it is I think without exception the finest Bay in the World, and would hold all the shipping of the globe, in perfect security. The land is very mountainous, and terminates abruptly on the Bay, with numerous rich vallies, cultivated and highly ornamented for country seats, their

effect from the anchorage is beautiful. The Town the Capital of this extensive country is large, and the numerous churches and spires, with the monasterys have a pleasing effect, but the houses in general are not highly ornamental or built so as to afford much real comfort, and are not very cleanly. The continual ringing of the Church bells from day light until night, has a curious effect, but the Portuguese are very zealous in their religion, and attend the church service many times a day, in the evening of their festivals which are very frequent, they expend a large quantity of fire works, which from the vessel had a novel effect, their processions are grand in the extreme, and the churches elegantly, and richly decorated, with gold and silver plate, and good pictures. I was much gratified with what I saw of this fine country, and think it will never again return under the Government of Portugal, having once tasted the pleasures of independence they will never again submit to the yoke of dependence, unless conquered and I do not hesitate to say, the power of Portugal is not equal to the task. We remained at Rio six weeks to repair our damages, and before we sailed I was highly gratified by the arrival of my friend J. Steel and his family, who left England three months after us, but have overtaken us. I likewise met with several old friends whom I knew in the Navy, that made my time pass very agreeably. I am sorry to say we have parted with our chief mate the best sailor on board, he was quite tired out with the Captⁿ's conduct to him. We took on board another who was discharged from another ship for drunkenness, so that our prospects are gloomy indeed for the remainder of the voyage. On the 24th of June we quitted Rio Janeiro and proceeded in company with Steel's ship on our voyage together, but could not ^{long} keep company as we outsailed them. We had not left port long before it was discovered we had not candles enough left for a

month's consumption, and hardly any oil for the use of the ship, and a great deficiency of vinegar, and all small articles for the passengers' table. When we got near the Cape of Good Hope we had very singular wether, very boisterous for two or three hours and then quite calm, and so on alternately, which ~~made~~ such a heavy swell of the sea, that the ship rolled very heavy, and the planks opened ~~so~~ much that the ladies' cabin could not be kept water tight, and being sadly frightened as well as incommoded, some of them were often in hysterics, and your humble servant had enough to do to be at all hours at the call of the ladies, and a great many anxious nights have I spent in allaying their fears, when I had but too much reason to fear for the worst myself. I never knew such a continuance of hard gales for six weeks, until we rounded the Cape, and to add to our misfortunes, the wind prevented our going into the Cape for a supply of candles, and we were from this time obliged to spend most of our evenings in the dark, and chat away our time until bed time. I had a little oil left of my private stock, which sometimes afforded a glimmer of comfort in emergencies, but fearful the ship would be left without oil for the compasses, I kept some in reserve in case of danger. Thus we proceeded on our voyage, and fortunately had better weather, and fair winds from the Cape, which soon shortened our distance, and on the first of September, gave us hopes of making the long sought land. To describe to you the anxiety of all on board to catch the first glimpse of the mountains rising from the water, is impossible, every eye was extended in search of the same object, and every ear in expectation that the man at the mast head, would every minute announce the welcome tidings, after many hours spent in anxious expectation, the man on the look out above, exclaimed,

Land, Land upon the Larboard Bow, at which pleasing sound, every eye flushed with joy, and Richard was himself again. We soon had the pleasure of viewing it from the deck. I cannot describe the feelings of us all as we sailed along the land, there is something very forbidding in the appearance of the coast, the rocks are very high and bluff like cliffs, but so dark as to present a dreary prospect, and not a very favourable view to those who expected at first sight to see a paradise, on the 6th we entered between the Heads that form the commencement of the Harbour, and entrance to the River Derwent, here the prospect much improved as we advanced up the Inlet, and for 20 miles presented to our view a fine country, covered with stately timber, and here and there interspersed with settlers' habitations, which increased as we advanced towards the Town, before which we anchored on the 8th of September, glad enough once more to set foot upon Terra Firma. The town is very well represented by Mr Evans in your book, who has made a good view of it, but it has much improved by the addition of some good houses since that period, thus finish'd the difficulties of our voyage, and I will now under the head of General Observations, give what information I can.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS Nov^r 22nd 1822

The object of the writer of these observations, is to give his friends in England and those who may be desirous of emigrating from their native soil, a concise and clear idea of the benefits that may arise to themselves and children by going to our settlements in New Holland, or Van Diemens Land, and at the same time to point out to them the difficulties and privations they will have to encounter, before they can place themselves in comfort, and independence. The various publications that describe these colonies in such fascinating colours, much deceive those who can get no information from any other source, as they point out all the advantages that may ~~by~~ possibility, arise to the settler, without giving him a just description of the privations and many difficulties he must unavoidably encounter, before he can reach to independence, much more to affluence. With respect to ~~the~~ climate it cannot be described in too favourable a light, mild and temperate in the winter, the snow never lays upon the land for many minutes, but confines itself to the summits of the mountains far removed from the tracks the graziers or agriculturists wish to occupy, as a convincing proof of the mildness of the winter, season it is only necessary to state that the trees preserve their foliage, and the flowers blossom all thru the year, and the winter season when the labour of the husbandman is at rest in England is the busy time for the agriculturist in Van Diemens Land, at which period a constant succession of showers enables the settler to plough and crop his land, and the period for getting ⁱⁿ his corn is open to him from April, May and June until October. The summer season is generally dry and the heat of the atmosphere about 10 degrees hotter than in England, but tempered with regular land and sea breezes which succeed each other,

the one from the morning till noon, the other from noon until the evening, which is generally cool, the climate bears a strong resemblance to the south of France, and for salubrity not to be surpassed in the world, which the health of the settlers will at all times testify. The soil is generally good and very fertile, but the Emigrant will find every variety as in other countries, and it will require some judgment to select the best, but the proportion that is good is large, and it will be many years before it can be occupied or granted away, so as to be obliged to cultivate the inferior soil, unless there are peculiar advantages of water carriage to the Market Town, or other great considerations which may induce the Emigrant to fix upon the secondary soil in preference to seeking that of better quality farther up the country, as it must be borne in mind that all who from this period come to this Colony as settlers, will be obliged to seek for their grants of Land at least 80 miles from Hobart's Town, or from George Town, the only two towns of any consequence in Van Diemens as market towns, the situations for several intermediate villages are fixed upon by the Governor, but it will be some time before they can be of sufficient importance to be looked to as a market for the produce of the Interior. The country is settled and all the land granted away to the early settlers, that lays within this distance of the principle towns, and within 20 miles of the Rivers Derwent and Tamar the only rivers that are navigable to the above towns. Therefore the early settlers not only have their land within a moderate distance of the best towns for the sale of their corn, but many of them have the great convenience of water carriage for it, without any or but little land carriage, which is an advantage that future settlers cannot enjoy. I have been obliged to take my grant 85 miles from the seat of Government, and at too great a distance

from a navigable river to be able to send any produce to market, the distance by land and the want of good roads must long prevent the corn from being sent to market, under these circumstances the attention of settlers must be chiefly directed to stocking their land with sheep and bullocks, the increase of which is large, he may calculate upon three falls of lambs in two years in consequence of the mildness of the season, the stock generally are very prolific, and as the riches of the settlers in general are almost dependent upon the numbers of their cattle, it is gratifying to see them increase so quickly. Grazing must for some years be the principle pursuit of those who reside far from the towns, and if he cultivates a small portion of his ground, it will not be more than will supply himself and establishment with corn, and some few neighbouring mechanics, with a portion to barter with the shopkeepers for sugar, and tea, a few slops for his convict labourers or any trifling things he may require from his neighbours who may raise no grain. In four or five years as villages increase there will be a market for a larger portion, but until that is the case he must be content to graze the largest portion of his land, which from the present price of stock will pay him better than an extended growth of corn can possibly do, and during the time the land is grazed, the settlers will have time to clear his track of timber, or any thing that obstructs his plough, and thus be prepared to pursue agriculture as soon as it may answer his purpose better than rearing stock. Those who came to these colonies first are men of affluence, and from their land being near to the Town they are fast reaping the benefits of being early settlers, in the increase in the value of their estates, many of which are now worth from six to twelve pounds per acre, and land can be bought at every intermediate price down to eight shillings and sixpence per acre, which is the present value of land in the interior as soon as it is granted, the purchaser having the option of taking it in any

part of the Colony he may please that is unoccupied. I have sold my grant at that price to purchase some nearer to Hobart Town, but Government will not sell any, and according to the rules of the Governor no person is allowed to sell his grant until he has been in possession of it for 5 years, but it is sometimes sold under the Rose, the person who wishes to sell or exchange gives the buyer a lease of his land for 7 years, with an agreement that the soil shall be his at the expiration of the term. Government are aware that the settlers often evade the obligation they enter into to get their grants made to them, but hitherto it has been but little noticed. Mr Bigge in his report to the House of Commons mentions it and recommends in order to prevent clandestine transfers of land, that every Title Deed and Conveyance of Freehold property shall be registered and copied at the Colonial Secretary's Office, and that all transfers of land not so registered shall be unlawful, should this rule be adopted it will effectually prevent all transfers of estates without the knowledge of the Governor. Respecting the proportions of land which it has been customary for the Governor to grant to free settlers, who arrive with orders for grants from the Secretary of the Colonies, it has entirely depended upon the money they can show themselves possessed of upon their arrival in the Colony, the quantity being left by Government entirely to the discretion of the Governor, who has generally followed ~~then~~ the undermention scale with but little deviation. To a settler who can show he has in real capital ready to invest in the soil.

f				
500	- -	a grant of	500	acres
750	- -	do ...	640	do
1000	- -	do ...	800	do
1500	- -	do ...	1000	do

£				
1,700	- -	a grant of	1280	acres
2,000	- -	do ...	1500	do
2,500	- -	do ...	1760	do
3,000	- -	do ...	2000	do

and it is now recommended by Mr Bigge, that any larger quantity that may be required by a settler, who has invested 3000 £ in the cultivation of land or rearing stock, shall be allowed to purchase of Government such quantity of land as he may require at 5/- per acre.

All grants to free settlers are freehold estates, subject only to a Quitrent of one shilling for every 50 acres per year to the King, which does not commence until after the fifth year of possession, Government likewise reserve the right to cut public roads thru the estates, if at any time required for the Public Service, and that all timber growing, or that may hereafter grow on the estates fit for ship building, or naval purposes, shall belong to the Crown. This right has been but very seldom claimed, and as the settlers have (to clear their lands,) destroyed the principle part that was fit for this purpose, Mr Bigge recommends that the right to claim it shall be done away in future grants.

It is necessary here to point out to those who may be desirous to obtain grants of land in either of these colonies, the way in which it is to be obtained, and at the same time to state that Government will not give any recommendation to any person possessing less capital than 500 £, which must be produced (in dollars, or such impliments of agriculture and furniture as are requisite for a farming establishment) to the Governor with the letters of recommendation, or order for a grant received from the Secretary of the Colonial department, who leaves the quantity to be given to each settler entirely to the discretion of the Governor, who will not grant land to any body not possessed of ample

means to cultivate it. An order for a grant it is necessary every one should get, before they leave England, to obtain which it is necessary that they obtain a certificate signed by two respectable and responsible merchants as follows.

We hereby certify

that A B of Faversham who is desirous of proceeding to Van Diemens Land as a free settler is a person of good character, and possesses a capital of at least 500 £ sterling.

To/
R. J. Wilmot Esq.^r
Secretary
Downing Street.

We are respectfully Sir/
Your most Obe.^t Servants
C.D. -- Street, London
E. F. & C. Poultreys D^o

This certificate must be inclosed with the following Petition to the Secretary of the Colonies, under Cover to the under Secretary as above.

To/
The R Hon^{ble} Earl Bathurst
Sec. &c. &c.

My Lord/

Your Petitioner being desirous of ~~proceeding~~ to Van Diemens Land as a free settler, and intending to embark on board the Ship Fame now lading in the London Docks, on or about the 8th of May, and being possessed of property which he is desirous to invest in the cultivation of land there, humbly solicits your Lordship to grant him a Letter of Recommendation to the Governor of Van Diemens Land, that he may receive a Grant of Land on his arrival in the Colony, with due respect, I have the honour
to subscribe
to ~~subscribe~~ myself, Your Lordship's

Most Obedient Humble Sev^t.

To Earl Bathurst.

A B

No. 19 John St^t London.

and inclosed with the Certificate under cover to his Secretary Mr Wilmot.

In a week or two after application is made the Petitioner will receive from the Secretary's Office his letter to the Governor, which is all that is required, but application should allways be made at least a month before the Ship is expected to sail, that the letter may be procured before a passage is taken, for fear of any delay or unforeseen circumstance that may occasion great loss or inconvenience when a passage is agreed for or goods ship'd on board before it is procured, as some people have in such case been obliged to go without their letter ~~on~~ forfeit the money paid for their passage.

● The Agent or owners of the Ship whom you agree with for a passage, will expect the Money paid down at the time of agreement, or such portion of it as may be stipulated, and the remainder when the ship is ready to take her passengers on board. It is allways advisable to go by a regular trader of the first class, which may be ascertained at Loyds, and not by a ship taken up for the conveyance of Passengers only, when ships are chartered for that purpose, and no freight is shipt by the merchant, they are careless about the state of the ship, and will fill her full of passengers, and generally have not stowage for their merchandize sufficient for all that go in her, so much room being required for the stowage of water and provisions for so many, that there is little tonage room for goods. The usual charge for a passage in the cabin of a good ship is 80 guineas, and they find fresh provisions and grog, or 35 guineas in the steerage cabin, where they find your ship's allowance only. Salt beef, salt pork, pease and flour, and you must put up with the inconvenience of having a companion to share your cabin, as they ^{put} ~~find~~ two passengers in a birth. But in the cabin each person has a birth to himself. It is necessary to look well to the ship before you engage a passage, and to have a regular agreement with the owner or agent

with respect to the quantity of provisions and spirits that you are to have on the voyage, likewise of water and the use of the fire and other conveniences, if you agree for passage only as some do and find themselves in provision, which may be the most economical plan for a large family who can form a separate mess, but not for a single man as there are many inconveniences attending it, and the Cap^{tn} has no interest in your comforts, he has it in his power to make it very unpleasant on the passage. Each passenger is allowed tonage for his goods if they do not take up more room than 80 feet cube, or 2 tons measurement, all the room that may be required beyond the quantity allowed, they charge 6 f per ton of 40 ft cube, but you may stow as many goods in your cabin as you please free of extra charge. If a family provision themselves or take any private stock of provisions, in reserve, in case of coming to short allowances, which is not unfrequently the case, if the voyage prove longer than was at first anticipated, or stress of weather prevents the ship touching at such intermediate places on the passage as was intended, to recruit the stock, it is better to be prepared for the worst, by having in reserve some hung beef, hams, tongues, cheese, suet and raimins and patent preserved meats in tin cases, which may be purchased at 2/6d per lb without bone, and will prove cheaper than taking live stock, which eat so much on the passage, and reduce so much in weight, that they cost more per lb when you want to kill them towards the end of the voyage, than the preserved meats, and there is this great advantage if they are not required on the passage, these things will pay a profit, or be equally serviceable on landing, and you have no trouble in attending to stock on the passage, or risk of loosing them which is no small consideration. When a settler arrives in the Colony and has secured his goods in a warehouse he must wait upon the Governor and deliver his letter received from the Foreign Office, and prove the amount of capital you

have ready to employ in agriculture, when a grant will be ordered in proportion to the means you possess, and you will have permission to proceed into the interior and examine such land as you may please, and to fix upon the spot you like best, when it will be measured off to you by the Surveyor of land, who will mark and describe the Boundaries in the Colonial Books, from which your title deed will be completed. As soon as you have possession, Convicts in the proportion of one to every 200 acres are allowed you, with regular rations for them from the Government store and for yourself for 6 months. A weekly Ration is 7 lbs of meat and 7 lbs of flour, but it is found not to be sufficient for the convicts, and their master supplies the deficiency, which is about the same quantity of meat and flour and 2 ounces of tea. When settlers are far from the Town, the value of the weekly ration is much reduced, as you must send a cart and two men for it every week, which is so great an inconvenience and expense, that many care but little about it, if they can afford to provision their men, as the convicts always get drunk when sent to the Town and it is difficult to get them home without accidents which but too often occur on these journeys. As soon as a settler arrives at Van Diemens full of hope and expectation, he begins to make inquiries about the soil, and is anxious to know in what direction he is to seek his earthly paradise, that he has traveled so ⁿ many thousands of miles to gain, but the first impressions he receives in answer to his inquiries, generally throws a damp upon his spirits, as he then finds he has more to encounter before he can get fixed upon his estate, or get any comforts around him than he had expected, and was it not for the great distance and expense many would return disheartened, but to most of those who go, to return is impossible, and as they see others who have encountered the same privations before them, and have in

a few years surmounted every difficulty, and placed themselves in independence upon their freeholds, they soon become reconciled to the necessity of proceeding manfully to the task, and when they have once embarked their little capital in stock, etc., many anticipated difficulties vanish, and altho' numerous others arise, still by perseverance they are overcome, and a little time reconciles you to every privation.

As soon as the land is chosen and convicts are selected, the first care is to provide a cart, and yoke of oxen to carry yourself, your men, some tools and implements, with a week's provisions from the store, into the interior. If your land is as far as mine from the Town 85 miles, there is plenty of scope on the road to exercise your patience in more ways than one, your oxen travel about 15 miles a day, and as you cannot expect to find any thing like a road for more than half the distance, you will be fortunate if you arrive at your destined spot in a week, as there are no public houses to accommodate travellers, you must at night pitch your tent (if you are fortunate enough to have brought one from England with you, which nobody should neglect) for yourself and men, and if you have no tent which is the case of most settlers, you must provide a wrapper, and in that sleep with your feet towards a good fire, with your companions around you, ~~xx~~ or in reality surrounded with thieves, or characters that have been transported for worse crimes, but as they are aware that their future comforts depend upon their conduct during the first difficulties and being unwilling to be returned into Government Service, they generally behave better than could be expected. As soon as the journey draws towards a close, you anticipate the pleasure of christening your estate, and in order to make merry on the occasion, every one is on the ~~sharp~~ alert to surprise the Kangaru, the only game in the island, which are numerous in the interior and generally form the first repast of the set-

tler and his party, when they pitch their tent on the land you call your own. The first evening is spent in feasting upon this delicacy, stewed in its own gravy, and served up in the iron pot, (the only culinary article in the camp) is generally much enjoyed and highly spoken of by all who have under such circumstances partaken of it, being confined to salt meat on the journey, any change is considered for the better, and hunger gives a relish to the feast, and as it much resembles venison in flavour a City Alderman might fancy himself in Paradise. The glass goes merrily round, and many a hearty wish is express'd for the success of the master's farm. The evening spent in merriment they retire light hearted to their tent, nor anticipate their approaching difficulties, and if they feel one regret it is that of parting with the bottle, being well aware when empty if may be some years before it will be again replenished. You may travel many miles in the Interior and call upon fifty respectable settlers, but will not find a glass of spirits or bottle of wine in their possession as they cannot afford to keep such a luxury and if they could their convicts would not resist the temptation to steal it, and the log house where master and men must reside together for the first 3 years, affords no security for the protection of any thing of value, therefore let a settler take with him a good property, he must not expect to enjoy any comforts for some years if he goes upon an uncultivated estate, as money in such a situation cannot buy him many comforts and could he obtain them he has no security to preserve them, therefore it is useless to take any thing into the bush that is worth your convicts stealing, and the only way to keep them honest is to have nothing but a pewter plate, knife and fork and mug for each man, and the same for yourself

an iron pot, a Fry Pan, and a gridiron, are the principle culinary articles required, furniture is out of the question. I have one of my packing cases for a table, and a box to sit upon, the expense of conveyance added to the first cost prevents the use of furniture, and it is out of character in a log house. There is one comfort I still enjoy, and that is sleeping in my sea cott at night, this is a valuable acquisition, and all settlers should be provided with one, and hammocks for his men, who usually make up their beds on the floors, as a hammock takes but little room they are most convenient and much better for the convicts. If a settler is a Batchelor, it is desirable that he should ere he quits England, learn the best methods of cooking with the commonest materials, especially that art of making good bread without yeast, and good puddings without suet butter, etc. as it will be some years before he will be able to get anyone to make them for him, unless he learns and likes to make his servants do it, and the above necessary ingredients are too dear to use in common, and indeed are not to be had in the interior. I make my puddings, cook for myself, wash my clothes, and mend such as require it, and all who have not a wife to do it must from necessity do it themselves, or make their men learn to do it for them, which is attended with as much difficulty as doing it myself. The small oven I brought with me was useless, as we can get no coals to burn in it, and as it is not adapted to heat with our only fuel wood, I sold it. My only bread consists of flour and water only, which I make into thin cakes like the scotch oaten cake, which I place upon the wood embers to bake, and being covered with them it is soon ready, when I brush off the wood ashes and it is then a substitute for bread, we call this a damper and such it proves to those who have not shaken off their English nicety, and I must say at first it proved so to me, but

now I get used to it I do not mind it. One of your scotch cake ovens would be a useful thing here. A few pairs of good shoes, and some low priced slop clothing for my convicts I should much like to have sent out, with some fustian for my own wears that is good and will stand the bush, as every thing her-e must be useful and not ornamental. To be provided with such things as are actually required for your men and self is every thing that can be expected, and although young settlers who may be in search of their grants, or some few travellers, will sometimes call and solicit the shelter of your roof, in preference to sleeping in the bush, the best accommodation they expect at the houses of those who have been settled for some years, is a good fire birth, or leave to roll themselves in their cloaks before it, or as we used to say on board a man of War to prick for the softest plank to recline upon. A bed is very expensive and it is not expected that you should accommodate strangers with what you cannot afford for yourself, and as to eating and drinking they must make a virtue of necessity, and be thankful for such as your cot can afford, and think themselves fortunate if you have been so long settled, as to be able to treat them with fresh provision, or a piece of poultry, to make up for their hard fare at night, which they seldom feel much as use is second nature, and the fatigues of the day's journey, soon reconciles them to the hardest couch. Beer wine or spirits are not to be met with at many of the settlers' houses, tea or water is the general beverage, but I hope after I have been settled here a year or two, to be able to make some malt and brew some beer, and to procure some milk and butter, from my dairy, and eventually cheese poultry and pigs and many little comforts, which I can now only enjoy by anticipation. Our first care is to encrease our stock of pigs, poultry, sheep, etc, and it is long before a settler with moderate capital can increase them sufficiently for his consumption, and as the money they will produce at the market,

is of much higher value to him than the articles of luxury themselves, economical motives oblige him to sell them at first, to purchase sheep and oxen to stock his farm with, as the settler who brings with him but 500 £ and from that to a thousand, will find his money expended without being able half to stock his land, but to give you an idea of what things are required to be purchased on takeing possession of a grant, and how necessary it is to be possessed of a thousand pounds to be able to stock the land on your arrival in the Colony, I will state such items as I have paid for, by which you will form an opinion, how much I have yet to purchase in stock, before I can have any cash to spare for my buildings, or any other purpose. I have expended as follows:- viz.

	f.	s.	d
Implements of Agriculture brought from England ...	82.	8.	10
Warehouse Room and expences on D ^o . at H Town ...	5.	17.	6
Pair of cart chains and yokes for oxen	6.	15.	0
Port duties on landing the implements, etc.	7.	5.	6
A vice for my forge 1.11.6 Anvil Do. 2.10.6	4.	2.	0
Files, stores and 2 axes	1.	6.	6
Sacks 6.15.0 Glazed log house windows 3.18.0	10.	13.	0
Licence for a cart 15/- soap and cheese 2.16.0... ..	3.	11.	0
2 setts of plough gear for oxen	20.	0.	0
A horse for rideing and all works	45.	0.	0
2 pairs of good working oxen.	87.	0.	0
2 pairs of Do.	61.	0.	0
2 pairs of Do.	58.	0.	0
2 cows and calves..	31.	0.	0
2 cows in calf	24.	3.	0
10 yees and lambs..	12.	10.	0
	XXX	XXX	XXX

								£.	s.	d
								100.	12.	12
4 geese ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.	0.	0
6 ducks ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.	10.	0
12 fowls...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.	0.	0
A chest of tea...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.	0.	0
A cask of pork...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.	16.	6
One cwt of sugar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.	13.	6
Cartage of my things to my farm ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.	10.	0
2 brine tubs £2.7.0, - Pair of scales and weights...								6.	17.	0
Seed wheat, pease, barley and potatoes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.	8.	6
								£500.	7.	10

From the above statement of my present expenditure you will observe how soon the money required by the Colonial Department for each settler to take out with him, to be entitled to a grant, is expended and how small a proportion of stock I have got together to begin with. I should like more sheep but I am obliged to keep in reserve 200 £ at least in cash, to pay for food, clothing, wages, etc., for my people and myself, as well as all sundries required upon the farm until I can get some return from my corn and stock, to provide for next year's expenses, as I am determined if possible to keep clear of the gulph that swallows up the means of many settlers, before they can work themselves round, they are obliged to borrow money of the merchants until their crops are ready, and are obliged to take goods on credit of them, for which they charge enormously, and it is next to impossible to get clear of them when you have once commenced a credit acct, as it is their interest to keep you on their books, being well aware you cannot have goods of any body else while you are their

Debtor, and must pay them any price they demand, this is the chief cause that keeps so many poor, from shortness of capital in the first onset or from want of prudence, a great many get into this situation, until at last the merchant gets the land and every thing into his possession as security for his acct, and reduces his Tenant to a complete state of dependence. This is the case of nearly ~~xx~~ all the settlers who have not more than 500 £ on their arrival here, and those who have less cannot work thro' the difficulties that they must encounter, unless they descend in the scale of society, and cultivate the soil with their hands. Many who cannot afford to purchase a Plough and oxen crop their little land with the hoe, but they are not far removed from the field labourer, and subject to much greater anxiety, but as liberty is sweet they prefer this mode of life although deprived of almost every comfort. The wages of free labourers are from 25s to 40s a week, which would keep them much more comfortable than they live, could they reconcile themselves to a state of dependence, and their services being highly valued by the settlers who require bailiffs or shepherds their situations would allways be respectable.

It is strongly recommended to hire people in England to go out with you, but it is not in the power of many settlers to do so, as their means are too limited to allow them to pay the expence, ~~sixx~~, of free labourers to the colony, and until an act of Parliament (now in progress thro' the House) is passed, it will be very difficult to bind them by indentures to serve you for a number of years at a fixed rate of pay, the only way by which a person can be repaid for an advance of capital to pay for his conveyance there, and his expenses on Landing until you can find him labour on your estate. It must

be allowed his services there cannot be valued too high, and if he has a wife and 2 boys about 14 years of age it will be so much the better. The whole of the expenses of takeing a single man would be about fifty pounds, and about 120£ for a family of four. A trusty servant who could be depended upon to look over the convicts' labour and learn them to plough, etc., make the most of their labour, would be worth some expense to get there and good wages, when employed say 30/- a week if his wages are paid according to the custom of the colony in merchandise, clothing, tobacco, etc., which yield the master 50 per cent profit, but if paid in cash 23/- would not be considered high wages, as it must at present be a very dear country for poor men to reside at, the necessities of life are 40 per cent dearer than in England and clothing double the price. To a person takeing but 500 £, valuable as such a man would be to him, he would be purchased at too great an expense, and his capital being small his quantity of stock must be in proportion, and his agricultural progress will be small, therefore he will have the less reason to go to such an expense and will be better able to confine himself to the labours of his farm, and superintendence of his convicts if he keeps any, than a settler who has the means of buying a good flock and herd, and who requires five or six convicts to do the labour of his estate, and as a man of property often requires to leave his farm to attend the markets, it is highly desirable he should have a trusty steward in his absence, at home, not only to superintend the work but to give confidence to, or protect his family if he has any, and to be an effectual check to the convicts, who cannot all at once give up their propensity to steal, when absence prevents the master from protecting himself against petty thieving. For these reasons I should advise none to take free labourers who can command but 500 £, but any body who can take with them 800 £, and upwards

would do well to take with him one man for every 300 £ he can command above that sum, and if his capital exceeds 2000 £ as his grant will be large and his establishment in proportion, he should bring a good bailiff who should have a wife to look after the dairy and some boys to attend the sheep, and a good plain working house carpenter who is a good hand at rough buildings and fencing, and likewise a blacksmith who will not object to turn his hand to any thing when not required in the forge, would be found of the greatest value, as the great inconvenience of sending a long distance to the forge is much felt by those who have much new land to break up, the wear of the ironwork is very great, the first two years, and in all newly settled tracks unless you are fortunate in having a neighbour who has a forge, you may have to send many miles to one at a great expense and much loss of time, therefore a person who can afford to set up a forge and import his iron, will allways find plenty of neighbours glad to assist in paying the expenses, by having their work done by you, for which it is customary to pay in cash. The greatest proportion of all labour, mechanic's work, and shop goods, are paid for by barter, but some few things are allways paid for in cash, such as horses, bullocks, sheep and all live animals, and such proportion of your convicts' wages as they do not from choice take out in slop clothing, tobacco, tea, sugar, or any other extra you may be able to furnish them with, as you cannot compel them to take anything but money unless they please. But as it is many years before there are any country shops to supply their wants, they are generally glad to be supplied by their master. In the early period of these settlements and indeed until within these last few years, the settlers in the Interior were much annoyed and alarmed by a species of free booters

call'd bush men, who had deserted from the Government Gangs of convicts, and had taken to the woods and fastnesses in the mountains, and supported themselves by committing depredations on the property of the unprotected colonists, and would often drive off whole herds of cattle to the mountains and slaughter them for the fat, which they bartered with some unprincipled accomplices for a supply of fire arms and powder, spirits, and any thing they required in the woods, to such a pitch had they at one time got that they traveled thro' the country in gangs of 8 or 10 and completely drove the settlers into the Town for the security of their persons, and long prevented the timid from settling on their grants, and ruined many who depended on their herds. Such a state of things was for a short time tolerated from the want of energy in the settlers to unite together to put them down, and from the Garrison not being sufficiently strong to spare parties of troops to scour the woods in pursuit of them. The Governor, finding it a growing calamity, set a price on their heads, and declaring them outlaws encouraged the settlers to destroy them,

but it seldom happened that one of them was taken, until at last tired of their daring attacks upon the Government store at Port Dalrimple, the Governor declared the island under martial law, and united the settlers under arms for the mutual defence of themselves and property, and at the same time selected several non-commissioned officers and placed under their command chosen parties of men, who were sent into the woods in different directions to scour the country, and to destroy the bush men wherever they found them, from the hope of promotion and the high reward paid by Government and the settlers to the parties for every man that was apprehended, they succeeded in destroying many of them, being often

led to their private haunts by the natives who detested them as much as the settlers for their continual attacks and cruelty to themselves and their women. By these means the colony has been cleared of these daring characters, and as the interior is now filling very fast with settlers, anxious to assist each other in the protection of their property, and the Governor haveing placed the police of the colony upon a more effective footing, the escape of the convicts to the woods is nearly prevented, and it is now a rare thing to hear of a free botter being in the woods, and the settlers now live upon their land in comparative security. But there is still a class of men who much annoy the settlers by stealing a great number of their sheep, these are chiefly convicts whose time of transportation is over, or who have had their sentences remitted and have had grants of land given them. Many of this class are very respectable and numerous, but many of them from the want of means to buy sheep (and from a strong propensity to return to their early habits) often steal the cattle of such settlers as leave it to wander unprotected and drive off 50 or 100 sheep at a time, and being very expert at altering or obliterateing any private marks upon the sheep, they succeed in incorporating them into their own flocks, and render it very difficult to bring home conviction to them, but many have been exicuted for it, and as we shall now have a criminal court on this island to which we can apply for satisfaction and redress, it will tend to prevent such bare faced robberies, which have until now been encouraged by the difficulty and expense of prosecuting the guilty, the Criminal Court being at Sydney the expense of taking witnesses there and being absent from your estate sometimes two months to attend the Trial, during which time your remaining property was at stake, often prevented the injured from seeking legal redress and many glaring felonies were compromised, instead of being carried before a court at Sydney.

We have but one Court which only tries causes that do not exceed 50 £ in value, all who prosecute for larger sums are obliged to carry the cause to Sydney, and it often happens when the debt amounts to nearly 100 £, the creditor prefers to relinquish nearly half his claim by reducing his demand to 50 £, to enable him to recover in the petty court, in preference to carrying his claim into the court of Sydney, and by doing so saves his money and time, but at the same time suffers a great loss, and the debtor has a great incentive to run on his acct with impunity, these are the evils which affect the trading community, and have been forcibly pointed out to Mr Commissioner Bigge, in consequence of whose report there is now a Bill in progress thro' Parliament to allow his Majesty to establish Criminal Courts in this island, with a separate jurisdiction from the Sydney Courts, and independent of the Governor, there, except in Capital Punishment, and sentence of death, when the sentence must be confirmed by the Governor before Execution, can take place. There is likewise to be a Supreme Court held here to try all civil causes under the amount of 3000 £, and above this sum, but when the amount is larger the parties that are interested, if not satisfied, with the decision, may appeal to Parliament or his Majesty. These are advantages that begin to prove the interest that is excited for our welfare in old England, and long may our mutual interests keep us united in the bonds of friendship, may we ever look with feelings of sincerity and brotherly affection towards the land of Freedom, the birth place of our forefathers, and although we may for some years be separated from those whom we love and highly respect, still let us hope while the same blood flows in our veins, that we may never have cause to separate our interests from those of Old England, whose policy must be mild towards us, and encouraging to its infant colony, when by anticipating our growing

wants and interests instead of taxing our industry, she will cement the friendly feeling that now exists and make us feel happy in being dependent upon a liberal Government, instead of cherishing thoughts of future independence, the natural bent of mans inclination when not checked by self interest, or strong ties of affection towards the country from whence he originated, the land that gave us birth. The next concession that will be expected will be that of trial by Jury, but at present I agree with Mr Bigge the time is not yet arrived to introduce among us this masterpiece of English Jurisprudence. The number of settlers that could be call'd upon to form a jury are too small for it, to be put in practice, as the emancipated convicts are not considered eligable and to call upon the free settlers in the interior to sit upon a ~~jury~~ jury 80 miles from their home, would be attended with more inconvenience than the present Military Court puts us to, it certainly has the appearance of a court martial the members being composed of officers of the army and navy, but while we have justice done us, it is of little real consequence what class of men form the jury, and to me who hope never to have occasion to appear before them it would be a satisfaction to know they are generally men of good education, superior in talent to the generality of settlers who could be selected for a jury and from their situations free from every prejudice that might exist, with those who being locally situated might form a prejudice that could not readily be removed, when they had heard an exparte statement from either party. Our Bupreme Court is to be a Court of Equity and in most cases has Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, its powers will be extensive and well suited to the colony. A Judge is coming out to preside in the several Courts, who will be vested with every power necessary for our benefit. He will act as a Chancellor as far as regards the securing and superintendence of the

property of lunatics, infants, etc., which power has been much required, for the benefit of those interested, and more particularly for their relations in England, who will feel that the property of their relatives in this country who may die without a will, must be secured to them thro' the medium of this court, to which they can at all times apply for any information required. Although Trial by Jury is for the present, not allowed in Criminal cases, in all Civil cases, if the prosecutor and defendant agree to petition the Judge, a Jury must be chosen, and by the Act in progress His Majesty has power by the advice of His Counsel, to grant us the privilege of Trial by Jury, at any time in Criminal prosecutions, as soon as the colony has made progress sufficient to be entrusted with the privilege, and the free population is sufficient in number to choose juries from them. We have lately granted to us the privilege to distill our own spirits, which will much assist the corn market by considerably increasing the consumption. You ask me the reason of my preferring to settle in Van Diemens Land, instead of New South Wales, there are very good reasons that the tide of Emigration should flow to this place, stronger than towards the Parent Colony.

In the first place the Climate is more congenial to a Britons constitution being about 10 degrees cooler than at Sydney, and about the same degree warmer than England, the natural consequence of which is, that all European fruits and vegetables, attain a higher degree of perfection here, than at the other settlement, and indeed many fruits, such as currants, gooseberry's, apples and pears, are with much difficulty and uncertainty raised there, while here we have them nearly in perfection, it is true in the warmer settlement, the melon, orange, peach, and nectarine, are raised in the greatest abundance, with little care, and the Pine apple with the assistance of a cucumber frame, but these fruits must be considered among

the superfluities of life, while ours are really useful, and being our natural fruits are more congenial to an Englishman's palate, which soon cloy with the richer productions of the soil, another and perhaps a more substantial reason is, that in consequence of it's being cooler the natural grasses are much better for stock, and we are not subject to draughts in the summer, that often destroy the prospects of the husbandman in the neighbourhood of Sydney, on the contrary, when the country there has been parched for months, and their crops nearly destroyed, this island has at the same times been visited with regular showers, and our corn has been very good, and found in such cases a very good market at Sydney, to supply their wants. As this occurs once in 3 or 4 years there, it is a great stimulus to agriculture here, as it affords an occasional market for all our surplus grain and potatoes. In the settlement at Sydney, the best lands for the produce of corn, are on the banks of the rivers, which are subject to occasional overflowings, which inundate the farms, and destroy the corn, but here it is very rare that any injury is sustained by the same cause, as our rivers are much larger, and stretch farther into the interior of the island, thus giving the settlers who inhabit their banks, good water carriage for their grain to market, and the entrance to the two principle rivers, form two of the finest harbours for the safety and convenience of shipping in the world.

Another decided advantage is, our grain and cattle attain a much greater weight, wheat will on an average weigh 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs a bushel more than the average weight of New Holland produce, which ensures us a preference in their market of 6/- a quarter, which pays the freight and expenses of sending there, thus giving us the advantage of two markets at all times, and in times of scarcity there, a very advantageous one, as they now depend upon this colony for supplies occasionally, that they were obliged to send to India for, before this colony grew more than it consumed. They

produce in perfection one species of grain the maize, which we cannot raise with much certainty of produce, as it likes a warmer climate, this pays us best to bring from Sydney, in exchange for our wheat, and likewise for our barley and beans, which are much finer here, but it must be allowed the maize is a valuable crop, as the quantity produced ~~per~~ acre is double the produce of any other grain, it is much used in these colonies for food, as well as for the stock, poultry, etc., which thrive upon it sparingly. Our cattle of the same breed and age, will weigh one third more than those reared at Sydney, which is a great advantage, that arises from the climate being cooler, and the grasses in consequence more nutritious, and not liable to be scorched, to the great injury of the cattle. These are the principle reasons why the preference is given to Van Diemens Land by Agricultural settlers, and even the mercantile class like to follow the tide, as the immense numbers of respectable settlers that constantly arrive here with capital, gives an impulse to trade equal at least to that caused by the principle Government establishment being there. We have an advantage in the land likewise, as we have a larger proportion of good soil in the compass of this island, than has been found in the same space in New South Wales, and our land is much more clear of timber, a considerable portion of most settlers' grants being sufficiently clear, to allow them to crop sufficient ground with corn the first season for their next year's consumption. Our settlement at Sidney is circumscribed in extent, being bounded by a chain of mountains, which have until within the last few years, presented an insuperable bar to the settlers' progress towards the interior of this immense territory, which in extent is equal to the whole of Europe, as soon as the land was granted away that was fit for cultivation, that lay within the natural boundary of the settlement, or between the Blue Mountains and the sea, some enterprising settlers penetrated into the interior, by cutting a passage thro' the woods, and after

much difficulty found a place where a road might be made to descend the mountain but it is so steep and rugged as to be almost impassable in carriages. This for a long while prevented any agricultural settlers from fixing themselves in the immense plains of the interior, but many **graziers** whose flocks and herds had increased far beyond the capability of their land to support, obtained permission to range their flocks there, and formed stock yards for their protection, and sent their shepherds for some months in the year to follow them thro' the wilds, and by this means extended their flocks and growth of wool at an amazing rate. Within the last two years a new rout has been discovered, by which a road is making that will lead to Bathurst, the principle inland establishment, without crossing the mountains, this is a valuable discovery, and will be the cause of numerous grazing settlers going into the interior, but ~~in~~ in consequence of the great distance from Sidney, the only market for grain, it will be long before any considerable number of agriculturists, will be induced to settle, where from the distance and difficulty of conveying their produce to market, they will long labour under great disadvantages, and as all the fertile land is granted away that lies within the mountains on the Sydney side, all new settlers must go into the inland country, which makes many give the preference to settling in Van Diemens ^{Is}land, another circumstance that must allways lessen the value of land in the interior, is their want of all water communication with the sea. **Many attempts** have been made by inland surveys as well as by coast surveys, to discover a river that might communicate with the interior, and form the medium by which their produce might be conveyed by water to the coast, but every attempt has yet proved unsuccessful, and it is supposed although a very singular circumstance in such an extensive country, that there

are no rivers that run into the Interior beyond the Blue Mountains, a distance of not more than 60 miles: Several fine rivers have been met with on the other side of the Mountains, that have their origin from this chain, that supplies them with water, and for a considerable distance are very broad and fine rivers, and gave every hope to the discoverers, that they communicated with the sea, but after following up their course with the greatest difficulties, it has been invariably found, that they gradually diminish in size as they advance inland, and after traversing from 5 to 800 miles, they all empty themselves into a large lagoon, or inland sea, the extent of which it is yet impossible to ascertain, this is a singular circumstance and has not its parallel in the world, and will tend much to lessen the value of all land in the interior. To those who can command a large capital, and intend to grow the merino wool on a large scale, it may be an object to settle, where they can have a great extent of pasturage for their stock to run over, this is only to be found by keeping the flocks so far inland, as to be altogether removed from the stock of other people, as the great object and principle difficulty, in an uninclosed country, is to keep this breed of sheep from intermixing with other inferior wool'd sheep of their neighbours, that likewise roam at large. You will observe by the statement of my purchases, that I have expended as much money as is prudent in the purchase of stock, but have only bought 10 sheep. As my principle object was to raise a good flock as soon as I could, you will be surprised at my commencing on so small a scale. The reason is that I cannot afford to purchase largely, and at the same time to have three teams of oxen to bring my land forward for next year's seasoning. I consider my success depends - upon having as much land cleared of timber and ploughed, ready for next year's cropping as I can, as by the time my second crop comes

round, I shall have expended all my dollars, and shall want some quantity of corn to pay my current expenses, as well as straw to cover my buildings. Most settlers begin with a good team of six oxen, but they make but slow progress, as they cannot break up more than half an acre of new land in a day, and work from sunrise to sunset, and as I have hired a farm of 800 acres in addition to my grant of 700 acres, I require all the strength of cattle I have got. I should much prefer horses for my ploughing, as they would do double the work in less time, but they are too expensive, a team would come to 250 £, and I have no lodges or stabling for them, and the land being uninclosed they would stray from Home. As soon as I have convenience and the cash to spare, I will have some, until then the harness I brought from England will be useless to me, and they are so little-used I shall not be able to sell or barter it away for sheep. I can increase my flock by taking in one to keep for some of the graziers, who have more than they can graze on their estates, the custom with them is, not to pay any money for keep, but they send a flock of ewes, and agree with a farmer that he shall keep them for a certain term, say 3 years, for which he receives one third of their produce of lambs, and the proprietor of the sheep runs all risk of loss from theft, or other causes, which is no trifling risk to a young settler, who may loose his all if he loses his flock. This plan suits my pocket and inclination best, as I shall soon get a good flock without lessening my present means. Good working oxen being so dear, they cut deep into my cash, but I can at any time sell half of them, when I have broken up as much land as I find it profitable to till, which I do not think will be more than 150 acres, out of the 1500 I now hold, as I do not expect to find consumption for a larger proportion of produce, and was not the farm I hire within a day's carriage of the market Town, I should not plough so much, the remainder I shall devote to grazing, and gradually clear it of such timber,

as may be in the way of the plough, when the consumption of the colony increases and I find it advantageous to break up a larger proportion. The average expence of clearing the land of trees, stumps and all impediments to the plough, if I put it out to be done by the acre, would be from 3 to 4 per acre. Large capitalists may clear their land in this way, but all who have moderate capitals, must go slow and sure to work, and clear their lands gradually with their convicts as quick as they can. We have no prospect nor can we expect soon to realize a fortune, it is not to be got in a little time, but requires much patient labour and perseverance, and those who cannot make up their mind to live on their grants, and give their whole time and labour for a few years to their land, will never do anything here. A man must be riveted to his farm for several years, and by his example must encourage his convicts to labour, in clearing the land. I rise with them some time before the sun appears, and prepare their breakfast, when I proceed with them to the fields, and by strictly superintending their labour and by assisting and encouraging them to learn the different things necessary on a farm, they get on very well, but as they have every thing to learn, it is at first very tedious to instruct, and those settlers who have no knowledge of agricultural pursuits, or the practical work of a farm, cut but a poor figure and their progress here as in other countries, must depend more on their capability to superintend, and direct the labour of their men to useful purposes, than on their own exertions, at the same time those who can occasionally guide the plough, wheel the felling ax, and at their leisure hours in wet weather, can handle a carpenter's tool to advantage, will find they can add much to their share of what few comforts can be procured, for the first few years. Rough as our first specimens of architecture are, our first efforts in the construction of a log house, and the success that ~~xxx~~ attends our exertions, ^{here} must depend as much upon the talent of the master builder, as your superb erections in London, and

those who can lead their convicts in this work, will be much more
and
successful in keeping out the wind/rain from their cabin, than many of
my neighbours have been. Our first attempt is to make an Indian Wig-
wam, to shelter us from the weather, which is done as soon as we take
possession of the land, by setting up some poles as you do your hop poles
in the winter, these are covered with long grass, or thatched with any
thing that can at the time be procured, this noble edifice is carried
up and sometimes completed the first day, and shelters the party from
the weather. Much skill is not required, as two openings, one in the
roof to allow the smoke to escape, and another in the side to admit the
lord of the soil and his chosen crew of handy fellows, are all that is
requisite. King Arthur in the midst of his knights, at the round table
was not more in his glory, than is an enterprising settler when he first
gets a roof over his head, of his own building, upon the land which is
to be his future field of industry, and although a few drops of rain
may occasionally descend the chimney, to remind us of the uncertainty
of human bliss, we have still the comfort to reflect, that the unwelcome
drops can be diverted from their course by the aid of a friendly board,
while the smoke can make its egress in stately columns thro' the door-
way, this you will call independence in a wigwam. During our residence
in this rural retreat, we are employed in cutting down small timber,
which are cut in 12 feet lengths, and only saw it down the middle,
these are stood up in regular files in close order, and dress'd in line
with military skill, until every one ranges in its proper place to form
an oblong square, they are placed in a trench about three feet deep,
which being fill'd in, leaves our wooden troops presenting in all
directions a good face to their enemy (the weather), upon these come
the roof plate, and such rafters as are more remarkable for their soli-
dity than their beauty, but answer the purpose intended, these are

covered with wood Shingles which we split for the purpose, and answers as a good substitute for tiles, having so far completed our second-rate edifice the interior decorations are left to be completed at leisure, a glass window is now considered ~~as~~ necessary but is not to be seen in many of the early erections. Masters and men must ~~here~~ lived under the same roof for at least 3 years or until the land and stock begin to make some return to his persevering industry, when by degrees he collects material for a cottage and gets it forward ready for the time when he can employ a machanic to assist in building it, which is generally in three or four years. This is a period during which every Settler who lives upon his grant, must put up with every privation, but he is cheered as he proceeds by anticipating the result of his labours, and the certainty of enjoying the same comforts as those who have been settled a few years before him. I have a cheering prospect in the progress of my friend Mr Watson, whom you know, and Mr Dessaily my neighbour, they embarked in the same enterprize three years since with about the same pecuniary means as I brought with me, and have undergone much privation, but are thus early reaping the fruits of their application. They have just completed a cottage each that will cost them 150£ each, they are built on the ground floor to save expense but are very comfortable and substantial, but you could erect the same buildings for half the money as the Mechanic's labour amounts to more than half the expenditure, building is very expensive. Mr Watson has one great advantage over me in having a good wife to superintend his domestic affairs, she is indeed a good helpmate and many comforts they enjoy, I cannot expect as a Batchelor, and as to getting a wife in this country it is impossible, the few women that are sent here, are because they are too bad to be kept in England, and they do not improve here even to be fit for servants, and most of the respectable Settlers who have families prefer using one of their Convicts, for all domestic employments in preference to such characters,

and when they are used to the employ, they are more generally useful than Women, particularly where there is a large Dairy of Cows. Our mutual friend Dessai~~ly~~ is a Surgeon, as well as a partner with Watson, as an Agriculturist, he came here and worked through the first difficulties, and when he had settled himself, he sent for his Wife, who came out in the same Ship with me, and is a very pleasant Woman, the attention I paid her on the passage has not been forgotten, and they are very obliging neighbours to me. It is particularly fortunate that I have been enabled to hire a track of land in their immediate neighbourhood, and only 18 miles from Hobart Town. Mr Paine whom you introduced me to in London and who was to assist me all in his power on my arrival in the Colony, you will have heard, unfortunately lost his life by the upsetting of a boat in which he was proceeding down the Bay to survey some Land he wished to purchase. He was a merchant so much respected, that the loss of such a friend whom I found buried on my arrival, is a great misfortune to me, but what must it be to his unfortunate Widow, whom he went to England to marry, and had hardly landed with her, when he was snatched away, she is living at the Surveyor Generals House until after her Accouchment, and has found good friends among his, who will take care of her. It is fortunate for her he had established himself in the Town, before his departure for England, much as I regret his loss, it is in one way fortunate for me, as in consequence of knowing Mr Butler, who has the disposal of his property, at whose house we met in London, and knowing a little of Mrs Paine, I got the offer of the Farm I am now ^{clearing} ~~chasing~~, which is considered the second best track of land in the Colony. I am to pay no rent the first year, but 50£ a year the two following years, and then my Rent gradually increases to 150£ a year, as the lease of seven years expires. I am to expend on buildings 200£; and should an opportunity ~~afford~~ offer, I should before the expiration of the Term, much like to be the purchaser.

of the Farm. I have named it Grove Farm, after the name of the Estate your Mother was brought up upon, it is situated close to Bagdad, in the finest country in the Colony. It is much more pleasant to me to pitch my tent in a well settled neighbourhood beside two friends in whose society I can pass my time, than it would have been to go upon my Grant 65 miles farther in the Interior. I have lately succeeded in selling my Grant of 700 acres for 295£, and have purchased a track of 400 acres nearer to me by 25 miles and I think better land. I paid for it 170£, therefore by the exchange I have suited my convenience and have got 125£ Cash into the bargain which will be of great service upon the farm I occupy. I shall send a man to reside on this land, and to look after some sheep and bullocks, and as opportunity offers, I shall clear it of timber and prepare it for my future residence, if at the expiration of my Lease I should wish to reside on it. By selling the glass I bought in Ireland, I made a good profit, and I was fortunate in my investments generally, they will on the whole pay me better than the investments of most farmers who seldom get anything by bringing out merchandise for sale. I purchased some Tobacco at Rio Janeiro for sale and for the use of my convicts, and I shall clear 50£ profit by that, which not only pays me well, but I got 50 acres more land than I should have had in consequence of realizing the 50£ in addition to my Capital, as our friend Hooper who left home with me with the same Capital as myself, got but 640 acres, as he would not risk the purchase of any tobacco. In fact he has not realised our expectations of him, and has shown a great want of spirit in all his proceedings, since his arrival which has made me glad we did not go into partnership, as intended. On our arrival the accounts we heard of the difficulties we must encounter before we could get settled on our Grants, made him, like many others, despair of success, and give up the thoughts of trying. I, in consequence

paid him for the half of the Agricultural Implements we bought together, and he has hired himself for 3 years to look after Mr. Kemps Farms & Stock, for which he is to receive 100£ a year, but he already repents his precipitation, and will if he can get rid of his engagement return again to England, but his employer will not give him up, and as he has been simple enough to place his money in his hands, as well as his person, he has not much chance of getting off. He had no sooner taken the situation, than he lost 90 of the sheep, which were stolen, and as his employer has the means in his possession, he says he shall pay for them, thus you will observe he has got into great difficulties, by being in a hurry & as I do not think he will get off from his agreement without sacrificing much of his property, the probability is that he will continue his 3 years, and by that time may get reconciled to proceed to his Grant, but if he should return he must give you a very unfavorable opinion of the Country, to make a good excuse for returning. I cannot think he will leave us, although I consider he wants a persevering spirit to fight through difficulties, as he has been a practical Farmer in England, and was very anxious to get here, I did not expect he would be the first to despair, but am glad to see he begins to recover a little & gets more reconciled to his situation but agrees with me, that he has been too precipitate in his arrangements. I allowed him 25 Pr Cent profit on the invoice prices of his Implements, but he is sorry he parted with them, which makes me think he will now set too at it with a good will, as soon as he can, when he sees how others work thro' all difficulties, he fagged hard on his land in England, and being a good Farmer I cannot think he will give it up. We had a very tedious and rough voyage, and as Hooper was at all times ill with the least motion of the Ship, he was completely tired of the Voyage, and when he

landed he received a very unfavorable impression, and never having left his home before, it is not surprising if his spirits were a cup too low to embark with much energy in the pursuit of farther difficulties, this is the case with many on their first arrival, but they got the better of it in time, and often make the most persevering settlers, when they set ~~the~~ their minds to it. If you purchase any more things in London for me, see them packed yourself, as some things that I find were never put in the cases I now want very much, especially some Pewter plates & utensils, that we paid for, but they were not sent, the London gents are very apt to have short memories when they pack for exportation, but their memory is good enough to receive the money for them, whether packed or not. It is the same with our Ironmongery, we paid for three pit saws, but here their memory's failed and they only put up two, at all events it may be as well to tell the parties we had them of, but we can get no redress, they will swear they were sent, & stolen on the passage, altho' the cases could not be opened. Farmers and those who are not used to Trade, are subject to so many impositions in their progress to these Colonys, as well as on their arrival here, that I cannot recommend any body to bring Merchandise but those who intend to open shops for the sale of it, all Settlers must go upon their Grants immediately, which they cannot get until they have sold their goods, and as they can only sell them through commission men, or Auctioneers, they can never get a fair price for them. Let them bring only such things as they must have for their use on the land, and the remainder of their money in Dollars, which pay them a fair profit, and as much or more than most people make by Merchandise, after all the trouble and risk of selling, our Market is too well supplied to allow of such large profits as used to be made by Settlers coming out, and as the inducement is done

away, it is better to leave the risk to the Merchants. But as some things are much required by Agricultural Settlers, and will answer to bring from England, I will ennumerate such as I should bring with me was I again embarking for this Colony, Viz

2 Pairs of good seasoned Wheels & a Cart, and fitted with good strong Iron Axletrees, the Iron tiers stout and 2 1/3 Inches wide without Rods for Oxen.

2 Pairs of good Harrows, or one pair and a spare set of Tines will answer.

A Cleaning Machine fitted with Seives extra for seeds of all sorts, as well as grain.

A small Thrashing Machine is a good thing but not actually required for 3 years, therefore the settler can please himself whether he takes one or not.

50 Sacks to hold but 2 Bushells each and some Barn Tackel, such as Seives, Pitchforks, etc:

A set of Corn Measures.

Strong Chains to Yoke Bullocks to the Cart and Plough, and some very strong timber chains for the Bullocks to draw the timber with, which is of large dimensions, and very heavy, they must be 25 feet each in length, with a swivel in the Centre, and a ring at one end for the chain to pass through, and a strong hook at the other, that will hold in the links, a few spare hooks would be useful, as they are apt to fly, and a good heavy purchase Timber Jack, and two Crow Bars.

Pit saws 9 feet long and Cross Cut Saws 6 ft: long, as short ones will not cut such large Timber, with saw setts, Files, Timber Races Compasses Lines etc:

A Steel Flour Mill to work by hand, with a set of Brass Wire Seives to clean the Flour, ^{two} brine tubs, a pair of large ^{Steelyards} ~~Stakyardes~~, and a Scale Beaming & set of Weights that will weigh a Cask of Pork, or 5 Cwt. ~~Wt~~ Weight.

A small service of Pewter Plates, Dishes, Cups and Saucers, basin ewer etc.

Two or Three Iron ^{Kettles} ~~Platters~~ and Saucepans, Frying Pans and Gridiron, and a Scotch Cake Oven, a small Copper without front & Bars.

A Tool Chest of small size, with tools for Plain Work only. Some good falling Axes. A Sea Cott & Bedding, and 3 Hammocks for the Convicts.

A soldiers Tent or small Markee. A Musket Blunderbuss and Fowling Piece

~~Discs~~. These, with a few things I have before named, will be found very useful, and I should recommend as little else as possible. Let everything be packed in strong Deal Cases, which may be made up into doors in the first place, and when put together will form large cases and be useful there, and will not only protect the things but will enable you to save half the freight, by packing your goods in between the Spokes of the Wheels, and all spare places, attend particularly to the packing, and always bear in mind that every foot cube you can save by good packing, will save you three shillings in freight, as everything is measured and charged by the foot for freight. The very heavy goods such as Ironmongery may be packed in such Casks as will be useful on your Farm, to cut for tubs, or for small Casks, Brine Tubes, Fat Pails etc; As every package will be opened and searched by the Officers of the Customs in the London Docks, when shipped, be careful to keep an inventory of every thing each package contains, that you may clear the goods at the Customs house without much trouble, and if you send anything upon which you are entitled to a Drawback of the Dutys, they

must be packed by themselves in the presence of an Officer, who will seal the Cases down. All goods when shipped, are subject to an advalorem duty of I think 10/- in the 100£. value, except furniture, wearing apparel and Implements of Agriculture, therefore these things that pay no duty should not be packed in the same packages, as those that pay a duty or receive a drawback. A person ^{un-}acquainted with the Shipping process, had better enquire who is the Owner or ships agent, and consult him, who for a small commission will see everything Ship'd regularly on board, as the most cautious man, who is unacquainted with the Laws & Customs of the Port of London, and the Excise Laws, may commit errors that may prove serious blunders, & cause him much delay & expense. Take care that all your Goods are shipd on board a week before the ship leaves the Dock, that you may not be obliged as I was to Ship some of them by another Vessel. Many passengers wait until the ship gets to Gravesend, and then go on board with a large portion of their luggage. Those who have seen numerous passengers thronging on board at the last minute, can only form an idea of the confusion it creates, the Ship having completed her cargo in the Docks, there is no room left for anything, consequently the passengers baggage is thrust into any hole or corner, some piled on the Deck, some thrust into the Cabins so as not to leave room for the parties to sleep, and it is several weeks after the ship leaves the coast, before you can get at such things as may be wanted for daily use. Everything that you may wish to have access to during the passage, must be packed in small packages, so that they can be taken in your cabin, the same with anything that may require cleaning or airing on the Voyage, such as Leather Goods Fowling Pieces, Seeds, and many little things that would damage with the heat of the Hold, and may be preserved with a little care. Some Rum and Lemon Juice are very necessary on the Voyage, as Punch is a good companion

even on board ship, and the sailors will do many things for you for a glass of ^{good} Grog which nothing else would tempt them to do., as they love the Rum Bottle dearly as their lives, and are rum fellows to deal with without it. Another thing must be borne in mind, Neptune the God of the Ocean, is as fond of Grog as the Sailors, and as he always visits the ships upon their arrival at the Equator, it is well to be prepared with a gallon of ^{old} Rum, which allways conciliates his Majesty, who is not well pleased with those who trespass on his Dominions, and are not prepared to pay him his accustomed tribute. Those who are ^{un-}willing to part with their Rum, to purchase their freedom of the Seas, are ordered by his Majesty to be shaved and cleansed before they enter the Southern Hemisphere, which operation entitles them to their freedom, and is performed without much ceremony. His Majesty orders his Minions to fill the Jolly boat with the water of the Ocean, a board is then laid across the Boat, on which the delinquant is seated, Neptune brings with him the Tar Tub, in which has been prepared a compo of lather which the olfactory nerves soon discover, is not ~~the~~ a mixture of the sweetest perfumes, with the brush that appertains to the tub, he proceeds to cover the face, and with a piece of old iron hoop, to shave the face as clean as his instrument will allow, when an order is given to slip away the board, and a good ducking completes the ceremony, to the no small amusement of the Ships company, and passengers who on this day dare not interfere, the command of the ship and crew devolve on Neptune the God of the Ocean on this day by immemorial Custom, and woe to him who disputes his Mandate.

Lime Juice is an excellent thing in the warm Latitudes, to mix as Lemonade to quench the thirst, the water being so foetid as to be scarcely drinkable, without being mixed with Acid or Spirits to render it palatable. A small dripstone to cleanse & purify the Water should

be taken, if the Captain is not provided with two large ones for the use of the passengers. I have now done my endeavour to put you or any person who may Emigrate from their homes, as much upon their guard as possible, and can only say as far as regards myself, I do not regret having crossed the Atlantic, nor do I in the least despair of success in my pursuits. I embarked in the full expectation of meeting with many difficulties but they are such as any persevering man may work thro'. I do not advise any who can get a living in Old England to leave it, and those who can get half a living I should advise to hesitate ere they encounter the privations of a new Colony, but to those who ~~are~~ are sinking their property without prospect of regaining it in England and can get sufficient money together, say 800£, I should advise to bring it here, if after reading this Journal they can fully make up their minds to meet with courage every privation. I will now proceed to answer some of these long list of questions you gave me to reply to, for your information, and in doing it if I am abliged to repeat some things, I have before noticed, you must excuse it, as I had better state them twice than neglect to communicate anything you wish to know. The first four questions are as follow, when I shall proceed regularly with your list. Question 1st. Will sacks Cordage and Wool bagging pay by way of Merchandise, to export to Van Diemens Land. Question the second. What is the price of double and single sacks there. Question the third. What is the price of Iron and will it pay to export. Question the fourth. What Culinary implements are most required and most saleable & what Iron work should a Settler furnish himself with for use or for sale, Does the Settler find his Iron and get it worked at the forge, and if so what is the charge for working it. Answer to question the first and second. Sacks, Cordage and Wool Bagging will at this time pay a profit of 50 per Cent, but they

are articles of uncertain demand, and much affected by the uncertainty of supplies, and being bulky are not a very desirable investment unless an Emigrant takes a small quantity for his own use, in which case single sacks that hold but 2 Bushells are preferable and likewise for sale, being generally used by the settlers. Sacks are brought from India and sell for 3/6 each. English single sacks sell at 4/6 each.

3rd & 4th.

and are cheap in proportion
Iron and ironmongery goods are sent out in abundance, and as but few Culinary articles are required, it is as well to buy only what is actually required for use, instead of Settlers taking a large assortment which they generally sell again and overstock the market. The Settlers buy their Iron and get their farming impliments forged at an expence of 6, lbs. for working it. Iron Axle Trees, being in general use for carts (the only Carriages used) some of them would be useful & pay to send out & some cart tier which must be 2 1/3 Inches wide, with a few cast iron boxes for wheels. Wrought Iron Shears for Ploughs will answer, as cast Iron Ploughs are only fit for land quite cleaned of roots, stumps rocks etc. which break them in the body past all repair here, as Bullocks are not so easily checked as horses when the Plough comes in contact with any stubborn material. Bullock Yoke Chains about as strong again as your plough chains, with ^{swivels} ~~sewers~~ in them, and 9 ft. long, with Hooks. Strong Timber chains with swivels and hooks, and a ring about 25ft. long are very useful. The timber being very large, Pit and Cross Cut Saws should be long ones for use, Pit Saws from 6 to 8 f. All spades shovels and axes must be very stout and good.

Question the 5th.

What is the price of a waggon and cart, if Iron is found by the settler & how much are they complete. Answer. Waggons are not much used, I have

not yet seen one, they are too expensive as well as the horses and harness, for infant Colonies, and are no better suited to the means of the Settler than to the Roads. Carts drawn by Oxen are used by settlers, some good broad Tier Wheels complete with Axletrees & Boxes are valuable as our wood is ill suited for Wheels, the Wood Work of a Cart will cost 30£, the Ironwork is made differently from what is used in England but I shall find what I had made in England useful on my Farm for other purposes, as I intend to have a forge on my land. The Iron Work for a Forge and Bellows pay very well.

Question ~~Answer~~ 6.

What Farming impliments will pay best to take out, or is it desirable to have everything made in the Colonies?

Answer.

English harrows are better made and the tines pay to bring out, and Plough Shares, but all wood and frame work to the Plough's etc, had better be made here, as the land differs so much in quality it is impossible to say until you are here what description of implements may be actually required, as they must all be very strong it is best to have most things made here, & not to encumber yourself with a variety of useless articles, which pay a heavy freight and are uncertain of a sale and a profit. A complete Plough may be purchased here for 8£, and I have bought a second hand Cart for 25£. A good flour mill is a valuable article, & an expensive one to purchase here as all Settlers require one.

Question 7.

Is good seed Corn to be purchased of all sorts, and can grass seeds of all sorts be got if wanted and what sorts of field or garden seeds will answer to send out?

Answer.

Corn

All sorts of ~~Corn~~ seed/can be had, the samples very good. I should like

a few of the best Poland or Potatoe Cats if I could get them, Garden seeds may be brought for use but not for sale, all vegetables grow well and the English Grasses are valuable. I wish some Clover Sanfoine Lucern and grass seeds very much, as it is better to destroy the native grass to clear the Land & lay it down with seeds, which do wonders the first year, it would take a long time to bring the native grass which grows so strong to a good bottom fit for enclosures, or Dairy Grazing, altho' our Stock that have an extensive range thrive well upon it, the lands are not much enclosed yet & until they are, Settlers will not be at the expence of artificial grasses valuable as they may be, they can be got here of excellent quality of colonial growth, but at a high price, as but little is raised for seed, but what is grown is exceedingly good.

Question 8.

What Timber of European Growth has there been introduced or transplanted to the Colony.

Answer.

Not any, The English Oak would thrive, and be very valuable, we have no substitute for it, or for the Ash, the Huon Pine resembling your fir in color is our best wood, but it is scarce and dear and grows in small quantities at particular spots. The Timber generally here^{is} of large dimensions but not good for general uses. The Willow and Osier would pay well to introduce for Basket Work. Walnuts, Chesnuts & Filberts would be valuable if they can be transplanted. The Wattle Tree answers the purpose for Sheep Gates of Hop Poles. The English Oak has been planted in New Holland and thrives well, but it is not to be seen in this Island.

Question the 9th.

Are there many people who breed the pure Marino Sheep for their wool, or is there any Kent or Leicester Flocks kept for long wool, of what description is the wool of the Colony generally, to whom do the Settlers sell it,

and at what price.

Answer.

The Best ^{Merino} Rams (some of Mc Arthurs flock) just arrived from Sydney may be bought for 20£ but very few of the Settlers can afford to breed from them, the wool is generally short of the Down kind, the longest is from the Teeswater breed, but will not pay to send to England. I think the short wool well selected would pay, in barter for articles the Settlers stand in need of, it is sold to the Shopkeepers at 4d. to 1/6 lb, in exchange for goods, and by them to the Merchants in the same way, there is nobody here who makes a trade of collecting it of the Growers. I have heard of no Kent or Leicester flocks, and think there is no fine Combing Wool grown here. It is in general Greasy and badly managed by the Settlers, the price being low & the quantity produced by the sheep small, and the price of labour high, it will be some years before the quality of the article will be sufficiently improved, to make the middle class of Settlers interested in producing a fine fleece, on having their wool in good order. The Breeding of Merino Sheep for their Wool to send to England, must for some years be confined to old Settlers, men of Capital, who have the pure Merino Tups to breed from, and who are cautious how they part with them to settlers, being well aware that they may make a handsome property by selling their Rams at 20£ each, and still keep a Monopoly of Fine ~~Rams~~^{many} Wool, as it will be some time before good Spanish Tups can be imported, and without them the mere Cross will be a long time producing a fleece that will pay the Colonist to send from this Country. The value of money is so great that all Settlers who cannot command more than a Thousand Pounds, find they have enough to do to purchase the Sheep of the Colony which sell at this time at 25/- a head, which is double what they fetched 3 years since, in consequence of the great demand for sheep & Yoke Oxen, caused by the arrival of such an immense number of free Settlers, who must

stock their Grants, & likewise in consequence of some Shipments of live Sheep sent to the Indian Archipelago for sale, or Barter with the Natives.

Question the 10th.

Are there any Tanners or Felmongers, or what becomes of the Hides, Skins and fat of the Animals slaughtered, will the Tallow soon become an article of commerce.

Answer.

Tanning is quite in its infancy, this branch of business is hardly established as a trade, but every Settler cures his own Hides & Skins, some Tan them, the Bark is excellent, but from want of experience the Leather for strong work is not so good as English & much dearer, the Kangaroo Skins make neat good upper Leather for light Shoes, but such as the Settlers require and the men they employ, are better made in England, & pay to take out. With respect to the Tallow, it will be many years before it can be produced in sufficient quantity to be an export article, at present such is the value of stock, that the Colony can with difficulty supply itself with Tallow for the home consumption, and as the Bullocks are valuable to stock, the new comers, the colonists do not slaughter more than can be avoided, so short is the supply that Government who usually take a stated portion of each Settlers Wheat into store at a fixed price 10/- a Bushell, which is 2/- a Bushel more than it generally brings at the Market, will not receive the Corn without the Settler supplies a portion of beef for the use of the Store.

Question 11.

As Butter, Cheese & Milk are so dear, the two former considered a great luxury, from what cause does it proceed that in a Colony possessing an unbounded range of Pasture, and strong natural grass, that they are not made in larger quantities, would not Dairy Farming answer on a large scale.

Answer.

There are many causes which tend to make butter and cheese scarce & high in price. In the first place every Settler depends as much as he can on the Agricultural part of his farm, to pay his yearly expenses, and calculates his future riches in the accumulating number of his Herd, consequently he is so anxious to increase their numbers, that the fattest calf is but seldom slaughtered even to gratify ~~their~~ palate of the epicure, so that Veal is a luxury, and while it is so, Butter and Cheese must be ranked with it, as the Settler will rather pay from 3 to 5/- a lb. for them, and receive their supplies from Ireland, than kill his Calves, which herd with the old stock as in their natural state. To have a good Dairy Farm would pay very well, but ^{as} it is necessary to enclose the land and go to much expence to raise an establishment, but few of the Settlers can find Capital to make it answer, and the Roads being bad the difficultys of a regular communication with the only Market at Hobart Town, will exclude those who live at a distance from following it. Notwithstanding there are some Settlers who from the exorbitant prices they have obtained, have made it answer well to supply the Market as far as their limited means would allow.

Question 12th.

Are there any Hops grown in the Colony, or would they answer to send out. Is the Barley good, and fit for Malting.

Answer.

There are a few Hops grown & but very few, as the consumption of Beer will be long confined to the principle towns, and even at Hobarts Town they are supplied from England & Sydney. The Barley grown here is much superior to that grown in New Holland & will Malt well, but Beer is too great a luxury for Country Settlers to think of, Tea & Water being their

only beverage, a bottle of Wine or Spirits are not to be found up the Country, as they would prove too strong an inducement to the Convicts who live in the same Hut (for some time) as their Masters to withstand the temptation of Stealing it, for the same reason all who go into the Country to form any establishments leave all useless articles at Hobarts Town, and bid adieu to all Luxuries & Comforts, until dame fortune (thru' perseverance) enables them after 3 years Labour, to emerge from their Mud Cabins, to enjoy a Humble Cottage on the ground floor, a paradise compared with their recent abode, which is then left in quiet possession of the Convict Labourers, who still for sake of economy eat their Meals in their Masters House. One or two Breweries have been established at Sydney but the Beer is so bad in consequence of being made from Maize & Sugar, instead of Malt & Hops, that those who can afford it buy English Porter or Ale.

Question 13th.

What is the price of Mechanic Labour in general, and is it possible to procure free Settlers to overlook or to do the work of a Farm.

Answer.

Good Mechanics are much wanted, and can obtain high wages, particularly the Carpenter, Blacksmith, Wheelwright and Mason, they get from 7 to 10/- a Day. When the Convict Ships arrive Government take into the public employ all the best Mechanics, which will make them scarce to the Colonists until this system is done away with, as is particularly recommended in the late Commissioners report to Government. The principle expense of erecting a Building is the labour, as there is plenty of timber and good Brick Earth. Free Servants are invaluable but too expensive.

Question 14th

Would it be prudent in an Emigrant to take out servants for his Farm,

and Household, and in what way should it be done to ensure their Service.

Answer.

~~Free~~ Servants are invaluable if you can attach them to your Interest, but as they are scarce and every Settler knows their value, every inducement of Wages etc. will be held out to them, as an inducement to leave your employ. The best way is to bind them by indenture for a term of years, which obligation will be recognised here, but if they wish to leave you they will then behave so badly, as to make it difficult, to put up with them, and as you must pay them higher wages, feed them better and incur a heavy expence for their freight, it is only those who possess 2000~~of~~ Capital who can afford the Expense, the Settlers generally take the Convicts in preference to save expense, & put up with all the inconvenience attending them, sooner than lessen their little Capitals by hiring freemen. But to those who can afford it a Bailiff or Shepherd with his Wife & two boys, would be invaluable.

Question 15th.

Can Convicts be procured sufficient to work a Farm & on what terms can the Settlers obtain their services from Government.

Answer.

When a new Colonist arrives and receives his Grant of Land, he is allowed one Convict to 200 acres, to be retained upon his Estate, partly provisioned by the Government and partly by his employer, about in equal portions, as the allowance is not sufficient from the General Store, being 7 lbs. of Beef & 7 lbs. of Flour. I allow ~~my~~ Convicts in addition 7 lbs. of Pork, or 10 lbs. of Mutton, 10 lbs. of Flour, 1 lb. of sugar, & 2 oz. of tea per week in addition, and pay them 10~~of~~ a year wages, which they take out in Slop Clothing, Shoes, or articles that

pay the Master 100 per Cent Profit & a large portion of Mechanic Labour is paid for in the same way. If a Settler requires more Convicts than generally allowed, he can obtain them, but in that case he must keep them at his own expence, and if the convicts do not conduct themselves properly they may be returned into the Government Gangs, which they are always anxious to avoid. Women Convicts are with difficulty obtained, and as their Characters are generally very bad, they are not much desired by the Settlers, who make the Convicts do all the household work, and find them answer general purposes much better than you would expect. Every Colonist with his family is allowed 6 Months Rations of Provisions from the general Store, the same proportions as the Convicts, the Settler finds his Convicts necessary Clothes.

Question 16th.

Can good Lime be procured from Chalk or other Material, and at what Expence can good Bricks be made on the Estates in the Interior.

Answer.

Lime can be obtained for Building, but not from Chalk or Lime Stone, as I have seen neither, altho' they are said to exist in New Holland. The Lime made at Hobarts Town is made from Oyster Shells, and is sold at a shilling per Bushel at the Kiln, but it is very expensive to the Settlers in the interior, on acc't of the Carriage, and heavy tax at the Ferry over the River Derwent. Every Yoke of 6 Oxen pay at the Ferry 9 shillings and 2d. per Hund. for the goods they draw. Brick Earth can be procured near most of the Farms, but the Bricks are very inferior in consequence of the Settlers not taking time, on the proper season for turning up the Mould, or burning them sufficiently. Brickmakers may be hired to burn & make Bricks at a price per thousand, The Lime will double its price at the Kiln for every 30

30 miles it is conveyed in Carts.

Question 17th.

Are Slates to be procured for Buildings or will it answer to send them from this Country.

Answer.

Slates are not to be had, nor are they particularly desirable, at such an expence as must be incured to get them from England, every Settler can get good wood Shingles, split out upon his Estate, at a stated price per Thousand, which keep out the weather and answer the purpose so well, that they with Thatch will compose the covering of Houses and out Buildings for many years, there has been some slate and Lime Stone discovered in the interior of New Holland, as well as Coals, but the stone is not yet worked & the burningⁿ of Coals by the Settlers, will not be allowed until the Country is more clear of Timber, if the expence of getting them did not effectually prevent the use of them in the Interior.

Question the 18th

Is Roman Cement much required in the Towns, as the freight would double the first cost in this Country, would it then pay a fair profit.

Answer

The consumption here would for some years be so small, and the chance of its getting injury on the Passage so great, that I do not think it would pay to send it out.

Question the 18th

Would not Canvas & Irish Linens pay to send out as well as any thing.

Answer

Canvas & Linens at present pay 25 per Cent profit, sometimes when the Market is nearly clear, they pay much better, but as the arrival of

Ships & Settlers are numerous at this time, & likely to increase, the Market will be more regularly supplied & large profits upon all articles of general use, must not be calculated upon, altho' it may & has often happened, that the most simple things when scarce fetch a high price. I saw Prussian Blue sell at 18d. a cake last week, & a scrubbing brush that cost 10d. sold by auction at 14/-, such are the chances of Trade, but when the Markets are full, then the Merchants buy their goods at their own prices, and the Settlers who arrive with their money invested in Merchandise, being obliged to convert it into Capital before they can leave the Town to seek for their Grants of Land, (& to show the Governor the extent of their Capital) often sell their Merchandise by auction & thus force it on the Market to a great disadvantage, to save the heavy expence of WarehouseRooms, as well as the Expences of residing in the Town, which would soon consume their property, when their time and capital is required in the Country. The Merchants aware of this necessity, then buy their goods with every advantage, & should the Emigrant have made a bad selection, of goods not actually required in the Colony, his loss will be great, & if his selection is good, as he sells them under every disadvantage, the chances are much against his making a large profit, therefore Settlers that are acquainted with Merchantile transactions, must be cautious how they embark their property in uncertain speculations. Spanish dollars that circulate in the Colony at 5/- each may at this time be bought in England at 4/2d., which will yeild a certain profit after paying freight and insurance of 10 per Cent., and as Cash will go further in the purchase of any thing in the Colony than Goods, it is not worth while for an Emigrant who intends to go immediately on his Land to take any Merchandise.

Having now given you all the information I can at present collect, that I think will be immediately useful, I shall answer the remainder of your questions as opportunity offers, and will now proceed to give you my opinion of this Country, and the prospects it holds out of answering the expectations of Settlers in looking a few years forward. From what I have stated you will observe my opinion is, that no persons who have been brought up with a good education, and used to the enjoyment of comforts in England, and who do not wish to descend in the scale of Society, should emigrate hither with a Capital less than 800£, with this sum they may manage by great perseverance to work themselves thro' every difficulty, and in my opinion, and from what I see of the progress of those who have been here four or five years, they will in that time place themselves in independence, upon a farm of 800 Acres of Land, which they may call their own, & should there be a fall in the price of Corn and Cattle which must be expected, as soon as the present demand for new Settlers has subsided, or more cattle is brought to Market to supply those demands, still it must be morally impossible that an industrious man, who has no Rent or Taxes to pay, can fail to support his family upon such an Estate. He may not get rich in cash, if the value of produce should be much reduced, but he must be rich in the accumulated numbers of his Herd & Flocks, in the value of his labour that he has bestowed upon the Farm, as it must always be a cheering reflection (and assist every Settler in his progress) that every Tree that is grubbed by his Convicts or himself, not only makes room to procure a livelihood for the years ensuing, but lays the foundation for your Children to do the same, in the enjoyment of Comfort arising from your privation, this stimulates every man to act with vigour & perseverance and to most it is no

little source of gratification, to know they are the first settlers in a Colony that is in all probability destined, at no very distant period, to become an independent nation, and that he will be the fountain from whence will flow a hardy race to perpetuate Britains glory, who will look back with pride to the fountain head, and feel a pleasure in recounting the difficulties experienced by their forefathers in settling a spot for their future support. This feeling may arise from a little ambitious pride, but what is it else that stimulates all men to great exertions, & makes them patient under every privation, while they are pursuing their favourite object. Here is capability in the soil to produce every thing to be desired for the sustenance of Man, and indeed every luxury that ought to be required, and when it is considered how large a space on the Globe the Territory of New Holland occupies, that it spreads over 33 Degrees of Latitude, it must be perceptible to every one that every variety of Climate may be found on some parts of its extensive coasts, from the intense heat of the Tropic, to the genial heat of this favoured Island, which is a little cooler than the South of France, although laying in the same Latitude, but all countries that approximate the southern Pole, are colder than the Countries that lay in the same degree of Latitude in the Northern regions, nor can shipping penetrate so far towards the South Pole, as towards the North, on account of the impenetrable quantity of Ice, that arrests the progress of the Navigator, the quantity of which is much larger in the southern sea, in consequence of their being but a small portion of Land, and this may account for the Climates of the Islands, being somewhat cooler, and the Heat of their Summers being better tempered with cool sea breezes than with you. I cannot look at this immense extent of coast, possessing a fine soil, and good harbours, with

every variety of Climate, without contemplating the immensity of the future ^{resources} ~~resources~~ of this fine Colony. Our Government is already beginning to appreciate the value of these resources, and have lately sent a Colony of Convicts and enterprising settlers more to the Eastward, in a warmer situation to cultivate the Sugar Cane and Cotton. While they will be supplied with Corn & Meat from the southern settlements, we shall derive our supplies of Sugar, Coffee etc. from them in exchange, to give encouragement to the industry of both, and form the source of future independance on other countries, for the Luxuries of this Life, as well as the necessaries, as it is certain that all the Land which lies between the Equator and the Tropic of Capricorn may be made to produce almost every article of Luxury, that England derives either from the east or the West Indies. It cannot be supposed such an immense tract of Coast will long remain unoccupied by some civilized Nation, who may see the happy progress of this Colony, and much as it may be desired that the whole may continue annexed to the crown of G. Britain, it cannot be expected that the Dutch and those who claim a prior right of Discovery, will give up their claim, if they see the benefit which England may derive from the acquisition of such an immense territory, they as well as the people of England have been in the habit of looking to these distant regions merely as a place of banishment for vagabonds & pests of society, but our Ministers already begin to set some value on the Trade to this country, the amazing increase of which within these 3 years, surprises those even who had been sanguine in their expectations. Three years since about six Ships annually, besides the convict ships, supplied the wants of these Settlements, and when I tell you at least Twenty Ships have arrived here this year, the whole of them freighted with Merchandise & full of Settlers bringing with them property, you will be able to form some idea of the

growing consequence of these Settlements to England. When I look around this little Island and reflect that Twenty years only have elapsed since civilized man first planted a settlement on these shores, I am amazed to see the progress that has been made in so short a space, it is highly gratifying to see the sons of Britain swarming over this fertile little Island, not confined as to a hive, but dispersing themselves over a surface of a thousand square Miles and ^{carrying} ~~carrying~~ with them into their retreats the Arts and sciences, combined with Capital and a spirit of enterprise not to be check'd by the ^{greatest} ~~greatest~~ privations. At the two extremities of this little Island 120 miles distant from each other are two Towns which are situated on beautiful harbours, and already contain several thousand inhabitants, who excelling in enterprize have equipp'd Vessels, and ^{carry} ~~carry~~ on a Trade with China, and with the numerous Islands in the Indian Archipelago, with the native Chiefs of which they barter English Manufactures, and the produce of this Colony, as it is a pleasing fact to agriculturalists to see even their Live Stock taken on board ship, to seek a market among those who never before knew the value of them, & who are willing to give in exchange the Spices and general produce of their Islands, adapted for the European Market, and thus laying the foundation of a trade, that may eventually prove a source of ^{much} ~~much~~ wealth to its inhabitants. It is true, but few Vessels have yet embarked in trade, but it is equally surprising, that any should have been equipped at so early a period, & ^{is} ~~convincing~~ of what British enterprize is capable of, when guided by reason & protected by a liberal government. The inhabitants of Sydney have already sent their ships to trade with the Natives of the South Sea Islands, and receive in barter for their Merchandise, Seal Skins, Cocoa Nut, Oils, Salted Pork etc. and some craft proceed to New Zealand in the Whale fishing employment & for various Dye Woods & Timber, thus proving that in a few years the

trade of this country, will strike out a new field for British enterprise, among nations that as yet hardly know the meaning of Trade, but will soon be taught to appreciate the comforts to be derived from a friendly intercourse with us. Government in addition to the Colony sent to the East, are likewise laying the foundation of two Colonys to the West of Sydney, some hundred Miles, where it is intended to send the worst of the Convicts, to pave the way for settlers of better character but as they are to be kept to hard labour, it will be some years before any free persons will be allowed to settle there, as it will be considered a place of punishment, the Convicts will be strictly watched, and all communication with other Settlements prevented. This will rid the present Towns of all the worst Characters, and the Convicts that arrive from England for the future that are not fit for, or required by the Settlers, will be sent there, and employed in clearing the Land, and raising Corn, Tobacco, Hemp etc. for the Government Store, as it is not considered the present mode of punishment is sufficiently severe, to deter them from returning to their old practices, and injuring the rising generation by their example. In addition to this improvement in the arrangement of the Convicts, we are to have an extension, and great improvement in the Police Establishment, the present although much improved of late, was not considered sufficiently active to prevent the frequent robberies that are committed or to detect the perpetrators of them. Government are about to send out/
an active Magistrate of Police who will have a Clerk and six runners or Constables, with a liberal salary, this will form the Principle Establishment at Sydney, from which will emanate many minor branches, that will extend to this Island and all the minor Settlements. These measures connected as they are with the improvements in our Courts of Law, will much improve the situation of the Settlers, & we may calculate ere long

in being as secure in our property as in England.

Any good working labourers, would find constant employ here at good wages, and might have a good garden & piece of Land to live upon, if they have a family they will do so much the better, as the boys and even girls would be employed looking after Sheep. Surely it would answer the purpose to some of your parishes that are ^{burthened} ~~burdened~~ with poor, that cannot find employ, and are a constant drain upon their funds, to send some of them out here. Many young men would come if they ~~were~~ put under the protection of a steady man, and their expenses paid by the parish. I think 25^s a Man would pay their expenses here, as they would work their way out at any employ that did not require them to go aloft onboard the Ship, & when once landed they would get immediate & constant employ, at such Wages as would with economy after ten years, ensure them sufficient to purchase Fifty Acres of Land. Mechanics of good Talent would find this a good place for them, they earn great wages and are in a few years able to set up in business for themselves, & those of inferior talent cannot do so well elsewhere, as any man that handles a Carpenters tool at fencing or any rough work, may always get plenty of employ at five or six Shillings a day.

The Settlers who have been here some years, and who are now supplying the Markets, and new Settlers with Stock, are doing well, as they are selling their Beef at 9d. lb. and their Mutton the same, at these prices they are fast realizing property, but this cannot continue long, as the present is an artificial demand, caused by the arrival of numerous settlers, who are obliged to give any price for their Draft Oxen, and likewise double the money for Sheep to stock their land, that they fetched to the Grazier two years since, as they were at that time sold as low as 12/- each good Sheep, and some at 7/- each, which shows present prices

cannot be calculated upon. My opinion is that provisions of every description will in a few years be very moderate here, which opinion I derive from observing the immense increase in the flocks, and Herds, since they were first brought to this Colony. When I inform you that according to the last official return, there was Forty Eight Thousand Head of Cattle in this Island, which is about Seven Oxen to each Man Woman & Child in the Settlement, when I tell you that the same return made the number of Sheep amount to One Hundred & Ninety Thousand, which is about Twenty Seven Sheep to each persons ~~share~~ you will readily conceive we are at this time in no fear of suffering from want of provisions, and will convey to you some idea of the fertility of the Soil, when you consider this amazing increase has taken place in little more than Twenty Years, without the assistance of artificial Grass, or Turnips, but from the natural ~~grasses~~ ^{grasses} only, when you add to their numbers the quantity that must have been slaughtered, to supply the population and the Government Store, with such supplies as they have required, it appears almost incredible that such an increase should be produced, and is a proof how prolific ^{how} the Stock are, and well suited the Colony is for the sustenance of man. It requires I think, no better proof that ere long provisions must be very cheap, they cannot go on increasing adinfinitum, and whenever they come more freely to Market, they supply must be immense. At present every settler is anxious to increase his number, and Government in order to increase the number have always taken a certain portion of each settler at a fixed price per lb., in order to give encouragement to the breeders, but this privelage to the Grazier, will soon be done away, it being no longer needful to increase them, and when that is the case, all the meat for the use of the Convicts will be supplied by Contract, which will soon reduce the price.

Government have likewise supported the price of wheat to give encouragement to the Growers & take it into Store at 10/- a Bushel, when the Market would afford but 8/-. Any quantity of Corn can be produced, if there is demand sufficient to induce the Settlers to grow it, but the demand being very uncertain, the Settlers do not grow a great deal. The general system of Farming is very defective, if a Settler wishes to raise 50 Acres of Corn, he breaks up this quantity of fresh Land, and crops it for many successive years, without giving it any manure, and as soon as it will not produce the quantity of Corn he wishes, he lays it down again, and ploughs up 50 Acres of fresh land, and treats that in the same way, thus the system of Agriculture is very simple, and while land is of so little value, there will not be much inducement to lay out any money on the soil. I hope some of our young ^{English} Kentish farmers who have lately arrived, will set them a better example. These circumstances considered I think prove, that prices must ere long come down materially and future Settlers must make their calculations accordingly. The only taxes that are raised are indirect Taxes, paid by the importer, upon Spirits, Tobacco, Wines etc., we have no direct taxes, therefore there is nothing to impede our industry, even the Roads that communicate from one part of the Colony to the other, are made at the expence of the Government, and chiefly by the Convicts, surely under such circumstances there can be no fear of ultimate success, to all who are indefatigable in cultivating the Soil. Our Wool will soon be an article of very considerable value to us, and we must by attention to its quality, increase its value, to make up for the decrease in the value of the Sheep. I hope soon to be able to send you a sample of mine. We cannot at present boast of much that will produce us eighteen pence a pound here,

but some has lately been sold to the Merchants at this price, and as the Settlers are now looking to the quality of their Wools, and begin to appreciate its future value, I hope we shall soon so much improve our flocks, as to be able to export a large proportion of this produce to England. I have often heard it remarked that these Settlements are too far removed from Europe to enjoy any large portion of Trade with England, or other Nations to the North of the Equator. But those who hazard this opinion, will soon be undeceived, and will see English Merchants filling this market with Manufactures, and anxious to collect what little produce we possess fit for the London Market in exchange, the principle difficulty is to load the vessels back, and most of them proceed for Cargoes to the East Indies, who would be glad to load here, but cannot procure cargoes, this will be the case until our Government remove the duty's they have imposed upon all fish oils, imported into England by anybody except the South Sea Fishing Company. As soon as it can be done with safety to their Interests, the Duty's will be removed, which will immediately open to us our natural branch of commerce, and we shall carry on extensively the Whale Fishery, & with the oil freight back English Ships. We are much checked by the prohibition of our Oil from your Markets, several Vessels have been employed in this Fishery with great success, as it is no uncommon thing to see the Whales harpooned in our Harbours, when the South Sea Ships are taking in their supplies, our Coast swarms with these fish, we ^{already} ~~always~~ supply the Indian Market, and could consumption be found any quantity could be procured, at a much cheaper rate than your Market is supplied by the South Sea Fishery, who equip their vessels at an immense expence for such long and arduous Voyages, this is our natural branch of Trade which a little time will throw open to us, as it will not only greatly promote the wealth of the

country, but is so much the interest of England to procure for us a valuable article to exchange for her Manufactures, that nothing but the money vested in the Fisherys before we were prepared to pursue this branch of business, could induce the Government to place such Duty's on the Oil, and although it may cause great distress to the South Sea Company, to destroy their Monopoly of this Trade, all at once, still we are aware that it will be gradually done, in a short time, as it is the mutual interest of both Countries that it should be the case, and it cannot be expected that the industry of this Country can long brook regulations that so sensibly affect our Interests, for the benefit of any Company in England. This is one branch of our Commerce with the Whole of Europe, as well as the East and West Indies. We have sent some of our wheat to supply the wants of the Colonists at the Cape of Good Hope, during their late Misfortunes, and we have to supply our occasional deficiencies, some years since fetched some Wheat from the Spanish Settlements in South America. In fact, look at the Countries that surround us, Asia, Africa, & America, and then ask yourself if we are not well situated for every branch of the most profitable Trade, as soon as our means will permit us to embrace the advantages of our situation. Our being so far removed from all the European Courts we consider an advantage, as we shall stand the better chance of keeping on friendly terms with all, and shall not interfere with any of them. Look at America, and see the value of British Trade with that Country, they ^{even} ~~are~~ now as an independent nation, consume more of your Manufactured goods than all the English Settlements put together, & why is it, because they originated from England, and carried with them every desire to enjoy the same comforts they did in

England, and as use is second nature, a colonist although he may for his own interest for a time debar himself from many of his former comforts, he will still return to them as soon as his circumstances will permit. For this reason, a Colony of Ten Thousand English born Subjects, is in a commercial point of view of more value to the Mother country than half a million of Indian born subjects, who know not the value of solid English comfort, and whose consumption is small in proportion. Look at America when our establishment for Convicts there, had been formed about Thirty Five Years, the same period these Settlements have been used for the same purposes. That country was but little known to the inhabitants of England, but after that period, when the benefits to be derived from Emigrating there was fully ascertained, see how the surplus population of England, Scotland, and Ireland, swarmed across the Atlantic, and even the inhabitants of the more northern countries. In after ages it will scarcely be credited, that not more than Thirty Years elapsed from this period, before they were enabled to set at defiance the whole power of the British Empire, & are now an Independent & flourishing Empire. What is there to prevent this Country being the same, blessed with a much finer Climate, with a soil superior and much more easily settled, ^{centrically} ~~centrally~~ situated to command a great Trade, Good Harbours & Material for Ship Building, a rapidly increasing population of enterprising English subjects daily drawing the means of their future greatness from the wealth of England. Rich I have no doubt in its mineral productions, what is there to prevent this Country from becoming in a few years of the greatest value to the English Crown, or in case on disunion, a flourishing and Independent Country of the first class. We have no mineralogists of any note, therefore the

various minerals contained in the Earth, have been but slightly examined. But it has been ascertained that there is an inexhaustible quantity of Iron Ore, in the Mountains at Launceston in this Island, some of which has been sent to England to be analysed, and has proved to contain 70 per cent of pure Metal, a larger proportion and of finer quality than can be produced by the Mines of Europe, except those of Sweden, which yield about the same quantity. Lime Stone, Slate & Coals, are found in the Interior of New Holland, and there is no doubt but this country is rich in its mineral productions. I may be a little sanguine as to the future extension and prospects of these Colony's, but I cannot look at the extent of this Country, and at its resources, without flattering myself that should I live Fifty years, I shall see it rising into importance in the political sphere, and if it continues under British Dominion, which I hope it may, it will become a second England. These are considerations that must affect Mercantile Men, and I should not indulge in them, was it not that I think the future advantages to be derived to our Children should be considered, as well as our own feelings upon Emigrating from our Native Soil.

I have now done my endeavour to show you every side of the question. I have pointed out every difficulty that a Settler will have to encounter with & think I have honestly shown rather the worst side of the picture, as I should be sorry that any one should come to this Country of my friends & say I have deceived them in their prospects. I think every person who reads this Journal, will possess more practical and really useful information, than I could find in any publication I have met with, as it is my wish that every one who may come here in consequence of my representation should upon his arrival be rather gratified than

disappointed, which I think will be the case, the difficulties of settling have yearly diminished, since every thing useful on a farm can now be purchased here, which is an advantage early settlers could not have, & as the improvements are great in the public Roads, and our properties every day rendered more secure by the late improvements in the Police, I think ere long many of our principle difficulties will vanish, and even now they are nothing to be compared with what a Settler must expect to meet with, who goes into the Interior of North America, where he may employ all his life in hewing Timber and then not clear sufficient to see his next neighbours house. We have extensive forests here, but where they are thickly Timbered is on the Mountains, in the low lands which settlers occupy, forest Land is but thinly covered with Timber, & most places in its natural state, the land looks more like a Park, with Timber planted for ornament, and ^{thinly} scattered, than a country in its natural state. We have many thousands of acres that have not a tree growing upon it, in the rich vallies, & I may say Hundreds of Thousands that can be cultivated with little expence. Many who cannot afford, or who have not time to grub the Timber for their first crops, cut it down and burn it, leaving about 3 or 4 feet of the stems standing, which admits sufficient sun to ripen the Corn & as soon as the stems get dry the following year, they light a fire under them and burn them out, this saves some labour and expence, but does not look well, and when this is done there is great difficulty in getting the plough to work. I cannot consider the average crops of this colony large, or equal to yours, although the grain is very fine, which arises from the slovenly mode of Farming, and not assisting their Lands by Manuring, or Fallowing. They cannot if they were inclined manure much, as it cannot be procured, the Stock not being kept up in farm yards, and there being but few horses which likewise run out to

grass, there is no possibility of collecting any quantity of manures, and it will be long ere a good system is generally introduced. But while I can make 50 Acres produce the corn that is generally grown upon 75 acres by a good management, I shall always feel inclined to save ~~thuse~~ that 25 Acres uselessly employed, for the benefit of my flock, and I have no doubt the recent settlers, will introduce a much improved system, and if they cannot find consumption for Wheat, they will by cultivating Turnips, Lucern & Sanfoin, to assist their Bullocks & Flocks, and get them to market much sooner than they now do. When the Stock has ~~been~~ increased beyond the wants of the Colony we shall be able to send to England some Hides and Tallow, particularly from New South Wales, whereas the Wild Cattle in the Interior are fast increasing, and may in a few years afford us the same means of trade, as is carried on by the inhabitants of the Rio La Plat, with England, who from the immense extent of their natural pastures are enabled annually to supply your Market with a ^{large} ~~huge~~ quantity of Hides and Tallow. Great is the encouragement now given to the growth of Tobacco, and our Climate is well suited for the growth of Flax and Hemp, which will be a considerable article of export. The principle thing we must improve & pay particular attention to as our chief & most valuable article of Export, is the Marino Wool, which is by experience proved to be of equal ~~quantity~~ quality to that grown in Spain, and there is not a doubt but we can continue to produce it of equal quality, and in any quantity to supply the fine Wool Manufactures of England. The fine Wool last year imported into England paid Dutys of Four Hundred Thousand Pounds, which duty being Sixpence a pound, on Wool that averages about four Shillings and Sixpence a lb, shows the quantity imported to be Sixteen Millions of lbs, and amounting to upwards of Three Millions & a half of Money. There is no reason why this Colony

should not supply the greatest proportion of this quantity, as it is allowed that there is no Country where it can be grown at less expence, and the unbounded extent of Pasture in the Interior of New Holland, affords ~~offers~~ every facility to the greatest extension of our growth, and the freight of Wool from ~~here~~ ^{hence} to England at the present period, is not more than threepence a lb, which is not more than it costs the German & Spanish Merchants to get it to London, as the principle expence is the Land Carriage. This will be a valuable article to exchange for the Manufactured goods of England, and it is a pleasure to see the quantity exported from ~~here~~ ^{hence} rapidly increasing, and the quality as fast improving. I point to these sources to show ^{you this Country is but just beginning to show} what it is capable of, and to convince you that not many years will elapse, before we shall possess the means of carrying on a considerable Trade with England, as well as with all the surrounding Nations. We are at present but as children feeling our way into the World, and as we increase in numbers and in Wealth, so shall we unfold to Europe, the means we so largely possess, to supply their Markets, with a greater variety of valuable productions, than any one Country can produce on the face of the Globe. I have yet given you no account of the Natives of this Island, and from actual observation I can give you none, as I have not seen any of them. Their numbers must be small as they confine themselves entirely to the high lands, and hunt their Game in such unfrequented tracks, that it is rare to meet with ^{one} ~~them~~. They are timid in the extreme, and never await the approach of Settlers, unless they are strong in party, and the settlers are unprotected with fire arms, which seldom occurs in the ^{uninhabited} ~~uninhabited~~ parts of the Country, but we occasionally hear of a person being speared to death by them, but it is but seldom it happens, and when it does it is often to retaliate some great injury they may have sustained, from the Bush Rangers, or from the

Herds Men, who do not hesitate to destroy them whenever an opportunity offers ~~affords~~, thus keeping up a degree of animosity, that prevents all approach to confidence in each other, which was completely destroyed on the first occupation of the Island, by a young Officer who commanded the Military Guard. A large party of the Natives came towards his post, whose motions and gesticulations he did not comprehend, and fearing from their numbers that they were hostilely inclined, and affraid to allow them to approach too near ~~the man~~, he ordered his Men to discharge a volley of Musquetry at them, which did considerable execution, they retreated in great dismay, and ~~the~~ their dread of fire arms to this day continues so great, that a small party thus protected may travel in safety through the Island. From their inoffensive habits, and generally peaceable conduct, it is supposed that they were peaceably inclined at first, but their intentions being misinterpreted, has been the cause of the greatest want of confidence between both parties, and it will be long before they forget the injury they sustained, and are daily sustaining, by those Settlers servants whose grazing employ often brings ~~them~~ in contact with them. Some few of their Women have at times from cruelty on the part of their Husbands, deserted them and put themselves under the protection of some of our fishing parties along the coast, and have proved very faithful to their protectors by whom they had children that are now living, and may prove the future means of reconciliation between the Aborigines and the Settlers. This mixed race are reported to be a very interesting people, and some of them being grown to manhood, they are spoken very highly of by those who have seen them, the women are considered handsome which is more than can be said of the Natives, who are generally represented as being very inferior in Stature, and much more plain than the Aborigines of New Holland, and very far behind them in the first proofs of

Civilization. Their neighbours on the arrival of our people on their Coasts in 1787, were a warlike people and well understood the arts of the Chase, of Fishing, the use of a Canoe, (which the natives ~~have~~^{here} never used) & many things that showed them to be far advanced in civilization before their Neighbours, but of a wandering and restless habit, which has never been subdued, and although a friendly intercourse has always subsisted between the tribes that border upon our Settlements, and our People, they have never been able by example or persuasion to induce them to settle themselves among them, or to turn their attention to Agricultural pursuits, which they have universally deserted after a few weeks trial, and not liking to be debarred their natural liberty, have thrown off the clothing that has been given them, & have returned again to their native Woods. But they have considerable confidence in our people, so much so that they send their children to be educated at a School, which has been established by the late Governor Macquarie for their improvement, ~~which~~^{where} they continue until they are 14 years of age, Clothed and supported by the Colony. I think this will be the means of civilizing the next generation. Some of the Tribes farther removed from our Settlements, and with whom we have had no communication, are represented as a warlike people, who have occasionally attacked a Boats Crew, when the Ships have sent them on shore for Wood & Water, at such places along the shore as have been but seldom visited for this purpose, but upon the whole, the Natives of this extensive Country are peaceably inclined, and very few in numbers compared with the immense extent of this Country, but you will readily conceive that but a very small portion of it has yet been trodden upon by civilized man, & much remains to be discovered on the Coasts, as well as in the Interior, as the greatest extent that has been surveyed has not been more than about 500 Miles, in a direct line from Sydney towards the Interior which is no extent compared with the immense surface of this Country which

must be capable of subsisting more than a Hundred Millions of Inhabitants, therefore you need not fear overstocking these Colonies with Inhabitants.

Memorandum of the terms upon which Land will be granted to Settlers at the new Settlement on the West Coast of New Holland at Swan River Published by Government 1829.

The Government to be at no expense in conveying or supporting the Settlers or their Servants. No Convicts or other Prisoners are at any time to be sent to the Colony.

The Settlers are to protect from want any Servants they may take out with them, and are to receive for ^{each} ~~such~~ an indemnification equal to 15£ or 200 Acres of Land.

For every 3£ of Money employed in the enterprise and proved to be so to the satisfaction of the Lieut. Governor Capt. Stirling in procuring Stock, Implements & necessaries (or in cash to procure the same) the Settler may have granted to him 40 Acres of Land so that by an outlay of 600£ may be obtained 8,000 Acres of Land estimated at 1/6d. per Acre for the Fee Simple.

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